The Jewish news

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IMA — HOW ABOUT ME?
Young parents greet each other on a Tel Aviv street. [IPPA photo]

Israel moving closer to talks with PLO

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel has moved a step closer toward direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization by saying it will continue to negotiate with three members of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks who have been appointed to the PLO committee monitoring the talks.

The three negotiators — Faisal Husseini, Hanan Ashrawi and Saeb Erekat — were among seven Palestinians who were named last week to the PLO steering committee for the peace negotiations.

Although most members of the Palestinian delegation to the talks have now become official PLO representatives, the Israeli government seemed unconcerned by the move.

At the weekly Cabinet session Sunday, most ministers argued that the new appointments have not caused a substantial change in the status quo.

They stressed that the PLO communique on the appointments did not specifically state that the Palestinian delegates had joined official PLO organs and that the move was described merely as a step toward improving the handling of the peace negotiations.

Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein made clear that there is no change in Israel's attitude toward the PLO and that the government is standing by its principle of negotiating only with representatives of the residents of the administered territories.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres also emphasized that Israel is adhering to its original conditions for participating in the peace process, one of which was no direct contacts with the PLO.

The two nonetheless failed to rule out the possibility of eventually negotiating directly with the PLO.

Cabinet Ministers Yair Tsaban and Yossi Sarid of the dovish Meretz bloc openly applauded the PLO communique.

"The latest development in the PLO is desirable and positive," said Sarid. "PLO-Tunis cannot survive without PLO-territories and vice versa, and the tighter the connection between them, the better it will be for the peace negotiations."

Israel's apparent indifference to the changes comes in sharp contrast to the last Israeli government's refusal to meet with Palestinian delegate Erekat in December 1991 after he declared that he was a member of the PLO.

Only after Erekat retracted his statement did the Israeli government, then headed by the more hard-line Likud party, accept him back at the negotiations table.

Likud politicians and other members of the current opposition are, meanwhile, furious over the latest developments.

They are insisting that no negotiations be held with Palestinians who are official members of the PLO and they are calling for a special Knesset debate on the subject during the legislature's summer recess.

The mass-circulation daily Yediot Achronot wrote in its editorial Sunday that most of the Israeli public is now aware of the fact that there is no way out of direct negotiations with the PLO.

However, the paper added, the public would have preferred a government that uses its readiness to talk with the PLO "as a means of receiving valuable Palestinian concessions," and not a government that blinks its eyes saying that nothing has changed "while everything has changed."

The Palestinian negotiators, meanwhile, are trying to return to business as usual.

Husseini went to Gaza on Sunday in an effort to smooth out differences with the official head of the delegation, Haidar Abdel-Shafi.

Abdel-Shafi emerged recently as a chief critic of the way the negotiations were being handled and had passed his criticisms on to the local Palestinian leadership as well as to PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

The Israelis and the Palestinians are now getting ready for the next round of bilateral negotiations at the end of this month in Washington. They are hopeful of finding a formula that will get the talks out of the present deadlock.

Labor Day deadline

Due to the Labor Day statutory holiday the office will be closed Sept. 6. As a result, early deadlines will apply for the Sept. 9 issue.

The editorial deadline is Tuesday, Aug. 31.

The deadline for organizations and classified advertising is Tuesday, Aug. 31 at noon. For retail display advertising, the deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 1 at noon.

Rabin lashes out at Jewish settlers in the territories

By LEORA FRUCHT

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin lashed out at Jewish settlers in the territories during a speech to an Israel Bonds delegation in Jerusalem on Sunday.

The prime minister praised the inhabitants of northern Israel for their courage and perseverance in the fate of Katyusha rocket attacks. "They are the example of the real Israel, the fighting Israel — not the crying settlers from the territories. This is the right Israel. These kind of people brought Israel to what we have achieved."

Rabin said that the government would continue implementing a change in national priorities and "would not pour money into the territories," adding, "it's not money which is relevant to the future of Israel.

"Ninety seven percent of the Jewish population of Israel lives on soil that is under the sovereignty of Israel, including united Jerusalem. Our national priorities are to serve them . . . to deal with the bulk of Israelis. The territories are not crucial to our security. Not Ariel, not Immanuel (both Jewish settlements in Samaria) and not these other places will provide the solution to Israel's security, social and economic problems."

Rabin also implied that the Jewish settlers pose an obstacle to maintenance of security in the territories. "It would be easier for our military to cope with terrorism if they had freedom of action in the territories and did not have to weigh all the time who is there."

Referring to the Yom Kippur War of 1973, the prime minister recalled that the civilian population of the Golan Heights had to be evacuated to prevent women, children and livestock from becoming Syrian targets. "If God forbid we ever faced such a situation again in which the Syrians attacked, the first thing we would have to do would be to get rid of the civilian population of the Golan Heights to make sure that our military would have manoeuvrability."

Rabin said there were two conflicting trends in the Middle East: the movement towards peace on the part of much of the Arab world and the threat of Iranian-inspired Islamic fundamentalism which he said constituted the greatest danger to Israel and the entire Middle East.

"At present the trend towards peace among neighboring Arab countries and the Palestinians in the territories is stronger than the trend towards Islamic fundamentalism. But no one can say for sure how long this will last.

"The question Israel faces is to what extent we will be able to use this window of time to reach peace agreements with the inner wing of Arab countries — Syria, Lebanon and Jordan — and with the Palestinians.

"Whoever believes that peace can be given for peace is speaking nonsense," declared the prime minister. "Whoever will not take calculated risks for peace will miss peace. The only peace Israel has achieved with an Arab country had a painful price: returning every square inch occupied during the Six Day War and eliminating all Israeli presence in the Sinai. I hope," he added, "that the precedent of the price we paid for peace with Egypt will not be repeated.

"We will try to achieve peace by painful compromises that will not endanger our security," said Rabin. "Peace is a major element in the security of Israel. This is our policy. This is the decision of the people of Israel. While we respect other ideas coming from the Jewish communities all over, it is the Israeli people — the parents who send their children to serve in the army — who will decide our future, and not anyone else from abroad," he told a delegation of Israel Bonds leaders from Canada, the United States, Latin America and Europe.

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He added that the government would continue pursuing its policies "regardless of demonstrations" held by Jewish settlers and right wing activists.

"There are those among us who do not realize the new realities — people who are locked into what used to be the situation five or ten years ago. Today the threat of Iran and Khomeinism is the greater long-term threat to Israel." The way to neutralize this threat, he maintained, was to advance peace with Israel's neighbors and to collaborate with the United States in preventing Iran from becoming a superpower in the Middle East.

"The United States is the only country besides Israel that recognizes the threat posed by Iran," he said, praising the Clinton administration for calling for a policy of dual containment of Iran and Iraq. "The question is to what extent the world, led by the United States, will be able to stop the proliferation of non-conventional weapons to Iran."

Rabin defended Israel's bombardment of Lebanon, saying that "Israel must continue to prove to the world, especially the Arab world, that whenever the security of Israel is endangered we will not hesitate to use force. But," he added, "whoever believes that by military means alone you can eliminate terrorism either in Lebanon or in the territories is talking nonsense. In the last 15 years, we have learned the hard way that all our operations in Lebanon did not eliminate terrorism there. The only way to eliminate terrorism is through a combination of military and political means."

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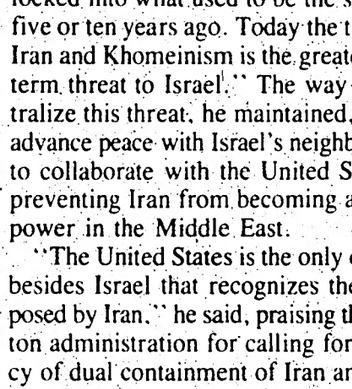

Canada

Members of the organizing committee of Tikvah Layeled's gallery exhibit at Gallery One are, (from left) Pam Scheininger, Shawn Langer, Renee Rubinstein, Bonnie Langer and Daphna Lazar. Missing is Hyla Schwebel.

Tikvah Layeled brings new hope to CP children

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — Tikvah Layeled: The Foundation for Cerebral Palsy Children in Israel has brought new hope to children in Israel affected by cerebral palsy and other physical handicaps.

Tikvah Layeled, which means a child's hope, is a non-profit organization that operates a multi-system framework of programs and services to maximize a child's chance to live a normal and productive life regardless of the family's Jewish affiliation.

Headed by Jonathan Miller and Renee Rubinstein, co-chairs of the Canadian Friends of Tikvah Layeled, a series of information and fundraising events were held in Toronto recently to support the organization's broad-based works which include, medical care, rehabilitation, education, acquisition of equipment and family assistance.

Ten years ago, Zvi and Shaindel Braitstein of Jerusalem were blessed with triplets. One of the triplets, a boy named Yoel, was born with cerebral palsy. The Braitstein family had to leave Israel in order to seek medical treatment for Yoel in the United States and Canada.

Approximately seven out of every thousand children in Israel are affected by this condition. Israel has one of the highest percentages of cerebral palsy in the world. To a large extent, Israel lagged behind in areas of research and medical assistance for cerebral palsy.

Recognizing the need to help other children with cerebral palsy and their parents, when the Braitstein's returned to Jerusalem five years ago, they established Tikvah Layeled. Today, the intensive rehabilitation center has gained international recognition and status and the world's experts in pediatric neurology and neurosurgery who attend symposia sponsored by Tikvah Layered, now consider it to be a leader in the fight against cerebral palsy.

"We were delighted to host the receptions on behalf of the children of Tikvah Layeled," says Rubinstein. "And we recognize the heoric work of the Braitsteins."

Miller notes that children in Israel with cerebral palsy are now receiving state of the art therapy through Tikvah Layeled. "Unfortunately, not enough children can be accommodated due to lack of funds — fundraising offers hope and an opportunity to those less fortunate than ourselves."

Neve Tzi at 32 Yosef Karo St. is a sophisticated educational, therapeutic and rehabilitative solution for both children and parents. The organization brings medical experts from abroad to train Israel's medical community and it funds professional lectures and medical symposiums on a variety of related subjects.

To reduce the serious shortage of children's rehabilitative equipment, Tikvah Layeled supports local production of special items such as children's wheelchairs and therapeutic work stations for free distribution to hospitals, institutions and for private families. It also distributes printed materials, provides personal family counselling and has established parent support groups.

For more information on Tikvah Layeled, write to the Canadian Friends of Tikvah Layeled,260 Spring Garden Blvd., Thornhill, Ont., L4J 3L9, (416) 731-0973.

UJA finances up as fiscal year ends

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Finally, some good news after a recession-racked year of cutbacks, write-offs and money owing to Israel. Toronto 1992-93 United Jewish Appeal (UJA) cash total is up by more than 11 percent over the previous fiscal year.

According to campaign director Mark Gryfe, UJA ended its 1992-93 fiscal year on June 30 with $33.5 million in cash, the second highest total in its history and an increase of 11.3 percent, or $3.4 million, over the previous year.

Subtract administrative and other costs, and the amount of funds available for allocation so far is $29.5 million.

(The amount excludes money raised for Operation Exodus, a separate campaign used to help Israel settle immigrants from the former Soviet Union.)

The '92-93 UJA campaign goal was $39.2 million, meaning the community still owes $5.7 million in pledges for this year.

Of the $29.5 million on hand, just over $15 million has been paid to United Israel Appeal of Canada, which has transfered the money to Israel. Gryfe estimates that local needs will require roughly $19 million this year.

The sum transfered to Israel represents 50.7 percent of UJA's cash total, just over its long-held 50-50 split in allocations between local needs and the Jewish state. This was necessary in order to "narrow the gap" in transfer payments to the Jewish state, Gryfe explained. That gap exists because of the $7 million Toronto owed Israel at the end of last year's UJA campaign. That shortfall is slowly being paid off.

Last year's campaign was plagued by an unexpected "bad debt" write-off of $6.8 million, a result of unfulfilled pledges from previous years. Because local agencies had already received their funding, Israel ended up shortchanged by $7 million.

The pledge write-off meant that Jewish agencies which get UJA dollars were told to slash their 1993 budgets by seven percent.

"It's a very drastic cut for many agencies," Gryfe conceded. "Many have already cut to the bone. Some programs may still have to be cut."

So why not reduce the amount sent to Israel this year?

"Israel needs more now, not less," Gryfe answered. "We've held firm on Israel."

Indeed, last January Federation officers voted to retain the traditional 50-50 split in allocations.

UJA campaigns are prepared a year in advance, so this year's proceeds will be used towards the 1993-94 budgets of communal agencies receiving UJA dollars, under the umbrella of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Gryfe stressed that the write-off was not permanent and that old pledges will always be honored. He said UJA is owed $19 million in pledges dating back prior to 1992.

One reflection of the economic reality is that UJA used to consider four percent of its pledges to be uncollectable. The figure is now 6.5 percent.

But UJA has gotten tough with those who have not made good on commitments: this year, it refused to take a pledge from anyone more than two years in arrears.

Federation president Bernie Ghert said he did not want to comment "at this time."

Leah Posluns heads into 17th year

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — As Leah Posluns Theatre heads into its 17th season, director Reva Stern predicts that it will be the theatre's most popular ever in box office terms.

Her conviction is based on the 1993-94 line-up which includes three solid classics, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Crossing Delancey and Fiddler On The Roof*, the ever-fresh *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and a *one-woman show, Punch Me in the Stomach* starring the Australian-born comedian, Deb Filler.

Reva Stern

About *Punch Me in the Stomach* Stern says Filler, a daughter of Holocaust survivors, bases her sketches on family material and comes up with a show that is "tasteful and funny."

"Her Polish-Yiddish accent will knock you over," she said.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest is the only play Stern has directed three times. She did it with the Beth Tikvah drama group in 1975 and again at Leah Posluns in 1978. This time, for the first time, it will have a completely Equity cast. Since the topic is so relevant, Stern does not anticipate that this play about mental hospital patients in the Pacific Northwest will need any updating, though she will check on the jargon and names of drugs.

In the season just past, *Beau Jest* was the biggest box office hit, "hands down," the director said. "I was astounded that I didn't get any complaints about its topic being inter-marriage. It's not that people were condoning inter-marriage but there is so much more understanding of the subject today than even five years ago. It is the biggest isue on the Jewish scene today."

She pointed out that even *Fiddler on the Roof*, first produced in New York in 1964, prophesied that inter-marriage, not only in the New World, would be a problem on the horizon.

Subscription prices range from $50 to $90 and single tickets from $12.50 to $22.00 with discounts for students, seniors and groups. The box office number is 630-6752.

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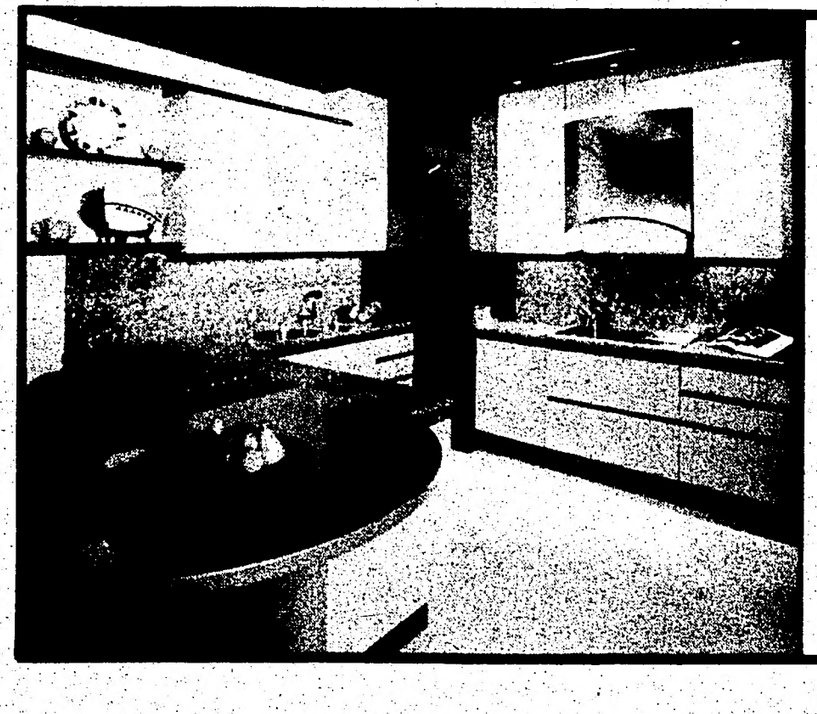

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Avital to address Na'amat

MONTREAL — Ambassador Colette Avital, currently serving as Consul General of Israel in New York, will address the Na'amat women's organization at its national convention here from October 31 - November 2. Avital will speak about Israel's current political situation, focusing on its relations with the new U.S. administration.

In addition, former Na'amat secretary general, Masha Lubelsky, now a member of the Israeli Knesset, is expected to attend.

Rhona Blanshay, national president of Na'amat Canada, was "very excited about the convention. Our members across the country are keenly enthusiastic at the prospect of convening in Montreal for three days of stimulating sessions."

The national convention chair is Florence Simon. Bunny Levy is serving as Montreal convention chair.

Blanshay said that the resurgence of racism around the world will be discussed, focusing on Eastern Bloc countries and with emphasis on North American neo-Nazi activity.

New York's Aviva Cantor, and Toronto's Shira Herzog will examine the theme, A Feminist Perspective: The Role of the Jewish Woman in Family Life. Special attention will be given to immigrant women who moved to North America from Europe, as well as to the role of women as early settlers contrasted with their lifestyle in modern-day Israel.

Florence Simon

Norma Joseph of Concordia University will speak on the issue of agunot, women who are denied a get (Jewish divorce) by a spouse. Joseph was instrumental in getting the Canadian government to make amendments to its Divorce Act in 1986, prohibiting a spouse from denying his wife a get during civil proceedings.

Blanshay pointed out that Na'amat Canada is part of an international group, International Coalition for Agunot Rights (ICAR), currently looking into what can be done according to Jewish law to alleviate this serious problem.

"Fundraising will also be discussed, in support of our many day care centres and vocational training schools in Israel," said Blanshay. "And we'll look at the success we are having in expanding our membership by attracting more young people [currently, the organization has chapters and councils in nine Canadian cities]. In the past two years we are proud to have welcomed new Russian and Ethiopian chapters into Na'amat."

Founded in 1921 as Moetzet Hapoalot (Council of Working Women), Na'amat has historically been involved in the women's rights movement. Its day care centres in Israel are seen as integral components in Israel's ongoing development. Among its many services, it has a Status of Women Department, legal aid centres providing free advice to women, centres for the treatment and prevention of domestic violence and shelters for battered women.

For more information on the upcoming convention, contact Irene Welik, national executive director, at 1-514-488-0792.

Government commitment

By MAURICE LUCOW

KAMLOOPS, B.C. — The federal government intends to maintain its commitment to multiculturalism says the head of Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region.

Regional chair Renee Switzer-Bellas was at a weekend meeting with Canadian Heritage Minister Monique Landry. The meeting was arranged by the Canadian Ethnocultural Council in the wake of concerns expressed by member organizations over Prime Minister Kim Campbell's decision to incorporate multiculturalism within the Canadian heritage ministry.

On hand were representatives of the Japanese, Filipino, Ukrainian, Slavic, Jamaican and Haitian communities.

"The minister assured us that multiculturalism will remain an important part of her department's operation," Switzer-Bellas said. "She made a strong personal commitment to us and we certainly welcomed that. The minister emphasized that the establishment of her department does not mean a change in orientation. We all felt very positive coming out of the meeting."

Switzer-Bellas said other concerns raised at the meeting related to the federal government's heritage language program, which has incurred some cutbacks over the years, and the proposed Race Relations Foundation. Establishment of the Foundation was announced in 1988, with the understanding it would be operational within five years. Switzer-Bellas said Landry was aware the Sept. 22, 1993 deadline is fast approaching and she pledged to give the matter immediate attention.

BEBR Foundation to raise awareness

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — Olga Meister, who is in her late 60s, suffers from a neurological disorder called Benign Essential Blepharospasm, about which even some doctors are uninformed. The disorder causes involuntary repetitive contractions of the eyelid muscles, as well as, in some cases, of face and throat muscles.

"I was very lucky," says Meister, who was diagnosed and began receiving treatment soon after her symptoms appeared in 1986. She knows of other blepharospasm patients who have spent years vainly seeking psychiatric help, because the spasms, although physiological in origin, can resemble a nervous tic.

Meister, along with her husband Sam, a semi-retired executive, recently established the BEBR Foundation (Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation), based on a similar organization established 14 years ago in the United States.

"It's a really rare disease, affecting one in 50,000," Martin Kazdan, Meister's ophthalmologist, told *The CJN*. "People shouldn't just be told that it's a psychological thing, although anxiety and stress do precipitate episodes." The majority of sufferers are 55 and over, but younger people can also be affected.

Blepharospasm is more than just a nuisance ailment. Meister's case was disabling to the extent that she would stumble and could no longer drive a car because the frequent, intense spasms rendered her functionally blind for part of the time.

"When you have blepharospasm, your life gets smaller," she said. "You don't want to see people. You don't want them to see you. It's very unpleasant."

Meister found relief with Botox, a purified strain of botulinum toxin, which is considered the treatment of choice for blepharospasm and related disorders affecting facial muscles. Alternative treatments in certain cases include medication and surgery.

Biofeedback, acupuncture and hypnosis are also being tried, although there is no proven scientific data on their effectiveness, according to the Texas-based BEBRF. "I never discourage alternative medicine [for blepharospasm patients]," said Kazdan, "but they still seem to come back [for Botox injections]."

Botox is injected directly into the affected muscles to paralyze or weaken them. It brings almost immediate relief, but the effect is temporary, necessitating repeat injections every three to eight months.

Common side effects include droopy eyelids and even, although it's not common, the inability to close one's eyes at all for the first few days. Eyedrops are necessary to combat dryness caused by reduced blinking. Despite the side effects, Olga says she "couldn't live without the toxin."

Raising awareness of blepharospasm symptoms and available treatment is the Meisters' top priority for their charitable foundation. A meeting in May drew about 50 people, some of whom travelled from out of town. Eventually, the Meisters would like to raise enough money to support Canadian research on the precise cause of blepharospasm as well as ways of perfecting treatment.

Sam Meister points out that if every doctor were informed about blepharospasm, "it would be a big saving for the Ontario government. It costs a lot of money to send patients for CAT scans and to psychiatrists."

For further information about the BEBR Foundation, call Olga or Sam Meister at (416) 512-6610. The foundation is a registered charitable organization.

Montreal gears up for fall GA

NEW YORK — Registration forms have been mailed to affiliated lay and professional leaders throughout North America for the 1993 Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) General Assembly (GA) to be held November 16-21 in Montreal.

The theme this year is Jewish Community Through Diversity: Building the Global Continental and Local Jewish Community for a New Era.

Programming will have two major emphases:

- the emergence of new thinking and new agendas, particularly as they relate to Jewish continuity, Israel-Diaspora relations and financial resource development, and
- the impact of the larger social and cultural context on our efforts to build Jewish community.

Montreal, a bilingual city with a variety of Jewish communities, is a particularly appropriate location to consider these community-building efforts, says Dr. Carl A. Sheingold, GA program director.

Caryn Rosen Adelman of Chicago and George Wasserstein of Toronto are GA Program Committee co-chairs.

Hotels that will house GA participants this year include the Queen Elizabeth, the Bonaventure Hilton, Le Centre Sheraton and the Radisson. Programing will take place at the Queen Elizabeth and the Montreal Convention Center.

Since hotel commitments to CJF end on October 18, planning ahead to assure accommodations is advised.

A variety of special events have been scheduled by the Montreal Jewish community, including a tour of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and a Montreal Jewish Heritage Tour, both scheduled for November 17. A reception for delegates sponsored by honorary GA chairs Andrea and Charles Bronfman will be held on November 18 with a Montreal/Quebecois theme. The GA tradition of the Shabbat Kiddush presented by the host community will be revived on Saturday, November 20.

A substantial number of college students are expected to attend the GA, as befits the Federation and CJF priority of increasing the Jewish community's involvement on campus. A special fund has been established by CJF to provide travel and housing subsidies for students. The GA registration form provides an opportunity for voluntary contributions to the fund.

The Council of Jewish Federations is an association of almost 200 Jewish Federations which serve nearly 800 localities embracing a Jewish population of more than 6.1 million in the United States and Canada.

Established in 1932, CJF helps strengthen the word and the impact of Jewish Federations by developing programs to meet changing needs, providing an exchange of successful community experiences, establishing guidelines for fundraising and operations and engaging in joint planning and action on common purposes dealing with local, regional and international needs.

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ב"ה
It Won't Be Long..
IT'S UP TO US TO BE READY
How should we respond when we hear that something exciting is happening in front of us? We can sit in our favourite armchairs and watch. Or we can take action. In our time, the Lubavitcher Rebbe has declared that the coming of the Messiah, or Mashiach, is about to happen. At this great turning point in history, we can not sit on the side-lines. We must speed the transformation to a world of peace and good by acting out the kind of world we would like to see, by doing concrete acts of goodness and by living a Mashiach-like existence now, moments before the redemption.
1-800-2-MASHIACH
New Message Weekly

Ulana Abramson (left) of North York is congratulated by her husband, Henry, and daughters Raphaela and Danit upon receiving her master's degree and certificate in Jewish communal service from Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work in New York City.

Torontonian realizes educational goal

NEW YORK — North York resident Ulana Abramson would have never believed it if someone had told her five years ago she would one day pursue a master's degree in social work through a scholarship from the Jewish community.

Single at the time, Abramson was a ski instructor with a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Toronto. She was considering a career in law. She also wasn't Jewish.

Now, Abramson is the married mother of two daughters and a convert to Judaism who has begun a career in Jewish communal service, most recently at the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

"I was seriously thinking about the law, but I decided I would rather work with people than fight with them," said Abramson, 31, who received her master's degree and certificate in Jewish communal service this summer from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University in New York City.

Abramson received a scholarship to Wurzweiler from the Federation Executive Recruitment and Education Program (FEREP) through the Council of Jewish Federations. FEREP scholarships are available through the Council to 200 federations in North America. Wurzweiler is one of 15 institutions participating in the program.

"Considering my background, I feel this is a real show of confidence from the Jewish community in me and what I've chosen to do with my life," Abramson said. "That support is what makes this whole experience so special to me."

Ambramson also had significant support from her family. She did her course work at Wurzweiler during the summers. There husband Henry, a doctoral student at the University of Toronto, researched his thesis in Jewish history at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in Manhattan in between watching their children, Raphaela, 21 months, and Danit, 3 months.

Abramson underwent a Conservative conversion in 1989 after deciding to marry Henry, a member of the only Jewish family in Iroquois Fall, Ont. Her interest in Judaism sparked his. "When we met his ambition was to be a ski instructor in New Zealand. We brought out each other's potential." Ulana elected to have an Orthodox conversion in 1991.

The couple will continue their Jewish educations next year in Israel — she at Neve Yerushalayim College and he at Yeshivat Ohr Somayach — before returning to North America where she plans to work for a Jewish federation. Also, Henry plans to complete research at The Hebrew University for his dissertation.

"I've had this incredible wealth of support from everyone; Wurzweiler, my community and from my family," said Abramson. "I feel very strongly I've made all the right decisions."

Bonds president to help boost sales

By DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL — The new national president of Canada-Israel Securities Ltd. has promised to increase State of Israel Bonds sales across Canada through a personal campaign to reach largely untapped areas of the country.

Montrealer Myer Samuels, who has been dubbed "Mr. Israel Bonds" for his more than 40-year record of success in promoting sales of Bonds, has his sights set on reaching sales of $100-million (U.S.) in Bonds and notes nationwide in 1994. Sales in Canada in 1992 reached $90 million (U.S.).

"The job is not finished," says Samuels, leaning across a table in his office at Peerless Electric Company Ltd., a lighting fixture company he founded 35 years ago. Peerless generates some $50 million in business annually.

It is at this round little table — "my Bonds office," he notes wryly in his distinctive Polish accent — where much of Samuels' Bonds agenda is being for his two-year term.

Those plans include a tour of Canadian cities, including stops in Vancouver, Winnipeg, the Maritimes, and possibly Regina and Saskatchewan.

The trip will make best use of Samuels' legendary "personal touch" campaigning skills.

If Samuels, who succeeds Torontonian Alex Grossman, is successful, he will expand Bonds activities into smaller cities — those with 25,000 or more people — and double sales through greater participation by "average" Canadian investors. "We need the big ones and the small ones," he says.

In Montreal, for example, he would like to see the number of investors double from 3,000 to 6,000. In total dollars, Montreal sold $25.8 million (U.S.) in Bonds and notes in 1992. Projected 1993 sales are $38 million (U.S.). Samuels thinks at least half of the national $100-million goal for 1994 can be reached in Montreal alone.

Excluding notes, Montreal ranks fourth on the continent for Bonds sales behind Los Angeles, Miami and Toronto. To get Montreal to the $50 million (U.S.) mark, Samuels will revive synagogue-based events ("We think that we could raise $10-15 million (U.S.) there alone,") broaden the overall inverstor base and organize more missions — but not only to Israel.

One such mission will be to Washington, D.C., where participants will tour in-depth the Holocaust Museum. The itinerary also includes meetings with high-ranking congressional leaders, Israeli lobbyists and White House officials — perhaps even a few minutes with President Bill Clinton "if he is in the building," Samuels says.

But the underlying key to a successful Bonds drive in Canada lies in developing "a strong lay leadership in every city," says Samuels. "Once we have this, we have a campaign."

Samuels will admit only to being over 65, but makes it known that he lost his entire family, including four brothers (one in Palestine), before and during the Holocaust. Born in Grodno, he spent the war years as a partisan fighter. Later he worked with the Haganah, moving Jews living in displaced persons camps to Israel.

When he moved to New York in the late 1940s, Samuels got a degree at Yeshiva University and joined Bonds in 1951 as the Farband Israel Bonds program director, where he quickly showed his talent for campaigning. He was honored with three testimonial dinners in six years.

When Samuels moved to Montreal in 1958, he swiftly became a leading lay figure in the organization, first with the Electical Division and then with the Builder's Division, considered the "backbone" division of the organization. Most recently he worked with co-chairs Alex Kotler and Eugene Riesman.

Montreal also honored Samuels twice with separate Bonds tribute dinners in 1974 and 1986 at the Chevra Kadisha B'nai Jacob synagogue, where he has long been affiliated, and at the Shaar Hashomayim synagogue.

Samuels, perhaps more than anyone, realizes that the mantle of presidency will mean "double work for me," since at writing he planned to continue his activities as leader of the Builder's Division.

Samuels says he is tired of the notion that Combined Jewish Appeal, for which he is a longtime campaigner, and Bonds are rivals or adversaries. He would like to see the two organizations collaborate. "We are not competing anymore."

As president, Samuels said he will push for traditional bonds investments, including the popular Canadian Variable Rate Issue Bond (with a minimum guaranteed interest rate of 7.5 percent), as well as the State of Israel Note Program, an increasingly popular option negotiated between creditworthy investors, chartered banks and Canada-Israel Securities Ltd.

Samuels, who with wife Shoshanah has three daughters, Charlene, Sarah and Francine, foresees dividing his time as president chiefly between Montreal and Toronto.

But the main personal quality he thinks he can bring to the tasks at hand is "my belief in personal contact."

"I don't like to sell Bonds on the telephone," he says. "You have to make people aware, to be a part of it."

Mexico's relations with Israel disappoint local community

By DAVID LAZARUS

MEXICO CITY — If you ask Mexican Jews about relations between Mexico and Israel, you often get two reactions, sometimes from the same people.

The first, and more common one, is that Israel and Mexico have enjoyed entirely friendly relations and that the ties are, on balance, very good.

But in the second, more reflective breath, there is also an element of disappointment expressed in the fact that Mexico has on many occasions voted against Israel in the United Nations.

The reality, not surprisingly, is somewhere in-between.

Mexico, as a leader among the third world nations, has walked a fine and, to some observers, a contradictory line on Israel, voting on a fairly regular basis against Israel in the UN General Assembly but also co-sponsoring the initiative this year to repeal the infamous Zionism-equals-racism resolution.

The most common theory explaining Mexico's apparent mixed signals over Israel, as espoused by Israel's ambassador to Mexico, David Tourgeman, is that Mexico has steadfastly identified itself with the non-aligned bloc of nations and will vote against any country's policies that are considered "interventionist."

But Tourgeman and Jewish community officials indicated that the situation is also more complex than that. According to the ambassador, Mexico's voting record in the UN has been a "big problem", contributing to the unpopular image of Israel in the Mexican public mind.

Why such an image? Dina Siegel of the Tribuna Israelita, the Jewish body most in contact with the powers that be, attributed it to a strong current running through Mexico against the United States, Israel's great ally in the Middle East, as well as to Mexico's desire to assert its autonomy and self-determination among the community of nations.

Some Mexican radicals, Tourgeman noted, refer to the south-west American states won by the U.S. in its war with Mexico as the "occupied territories", a not-accidental choice of words in his view.

The nadir of the Mexican-Israeli relationship took place during the Gulf War, when Mexico took a strong stand against American intervention and its press assailed Israel daily.

But on the other hand, Siegel said, Jewish community leaders who were summoned to meet personally with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari prior to the vote to repeal the Zionism-equals-racism resolution were overcome with emotion when Salinas disclosed to them that Mexico would co-sponsor the initiative.

Mexico's historical record vis-a-vis Israel has reflected this on-again, off-again nature. In May of 1947, Mexico supported the creation of the UN Special Committee on Palestine, abstained on the partition plan vote six months later, but eventually recognized Israel and established full diplomatic relations.

Mexico is offically neutral on the Middle East conflict and frequently used to abstain on resolutions, but after the Six Day War in 1967 it backed a Latin American resolution opposing a Yugoslavian resolution that Israel withdraw unconditionally from the territories.

Tourgeman said the nature of the Mexico-Israel relationship has been dominated by three little letters, o-i-l. Israel imports about $200 million worth of oil annually from Mexico, but in general trade between the two nations, or for that matter between Israel and all of Latin America, has not been particularly active in Tourgeman's view because neither country seems to think of it as a priority.

Europe, said Tourgeman, is Israel's more "natural market" for importing and exporting, and what it does sell to Mexico consists mostly of agricultural and some defense technology. Last year the total amount of exports was a negligible $50 million.

But by the same token, Tourgeman said, the Mexican market is not all that aware of what else Israel can supply outside of agriculture and defense technology.

Besides the oil from Mexico, Israel's chief imports from Latin America are beef from Argentina and Uruguay, and coal and coffee from Colombia.

Still, Tourgeman is definitely hopeful that a more positive relationship can develop both on the economic and political fronts.

One reason is NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement, which Mexico is depending on to come into effect next year and set it on the road toward economic prosperity.

"Mexico," said Tourgeman, "is opening itself up economically and ideologically, so the whole orientation of anti-Americanism [at the governmental level] is being shed little by little.

"If free trade goes through, I think we'll see an improvement [in relations] with Israel."

Tourgeman said he is often surprised to meet Mexicans who know a great deal more about Israel than he would have thought. Tourgeman and Richa Rubenstein, vice-director of one of Mexico's leading travel companies, Viajes Excelsior, noted in interviews that Mexico sent an unprecedented delegation of 100 Mexicans to Israel for an agricultural fair.

While in Israel, the delgates had a chance to see the country's high level of technological expertise.

Rubenstein said Mexico has also started to import some medical and electronics technology from Israel, and it is hoped that these ventures will expand.

Pablo Kusher, executive vice-president of Viajes Excelsior, also expects an increase in tourism to Israel.

Moshe Shuster is the man Kusher credited for getting Mexican travel to Israel off the ground. Although El Al halted flights to Mexico seven years ago, Kusher estimated that some 10,000 Mexicans now fly to Israel annually through connections in New York or Europe.

Kusher had no way to tell how that figure broke down between Christians and Jews, but he said a significant number were Christian pilgrims. There is no Israel Government Tourism Office in Mexico and only a very small number of Israeli expatriots live here permanently because of very tight immigration policies. Mexican travellers can purchase a variety of Spanish-language guides to Israel.

Not all is politics, trade, or travel. Mexico and Israel established an Institute for Mexican-Israel Cultural Relations, and the two countries signed a cultural exchange agreement in 1969, resulting in permanent respective displays of Israeli and Mexican artifacts at the Mexican Cultural Museum and Jerusalem's Israel Museum.

Tourgeman, who was ambassador to Costa Rica and Peru prior to his posting in Mexico City about 18 months ago, said despite the problems in presenting Israel's case to the Mexican public, he has personally been quite taken aback by the exceptions to the rule.

In Acapulco, for example, Tourgeman was invited to attend a dedication ceremony for a municipal square renamed Plaza Israel. He found himself listening to a "very pro-Zionist speech" by the city's Mayor Guererro.

This astounded Tourgeman: first because the speech came from a municipal official and second because it was so strongly pro-Israel.

"I was like this," gestured the ambassador, his arms rising to the sides of his head as if disbelieving his ears.

Israeli ambassador to Mexico David Tourgeman

Plaza Israel in Acapulco

North Americans still choose Israel despite higher costs

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Until some years ago, a steady stream of Americans and Canadians came to retire in Israel, both because they wanted to live in a Jewish state and, no less important, because their Social Security checks went further here than they did in North America.

This is no longer the case. Prices in Israel have risen so much that retirement in Florida may now well be a more viable economic alternative.

Nevertheless, there are some 10,000 elderly North Americans immigrants in this country, almost equally divided between people who arrived here 30 or 40 years ago as young kibbutz-bound pioneers and those who came to retire, often following in the footsteps of their children.

Many have become active in the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI). Indeed, they play a key role in its activities, as is reflected in the *Spectator*, a bimonthly bulletin for AACI seniors that is edited by the organization's former president, David Breslau.

A recent issue, for example, carried an article about 400 older people from the United States, Canada and other so-called Anglo-Saxon countries who spend two hours a week helping newcomers from the former Soviet Union polish up their English, without which it is hard for them to get a good job. "Such a program not only aids the Russians," says the bulletin, "but also makes the volunteer teachers feel proud."

There are many other activities about which AACI seniors can feel equally proud. A case in point is the home repair course they run for Ethiopian immigrants in Netanya, north of Tel Aviv. And in Ashkelon, south of Tel Aviv, they operate a warehouse that sells clothes and kitchenware at nominal cost to newcomers from both Russia and Ethiopia.

The Americans and Canadians also participate in a wide range of social and educational programs. Some—like the evenings they spend square dancing and singing North American folk songs—reflect their links with "the old country." But more often they dwell upon various aspects of Israeli life, particularly within the framework of what they call study vacations. For instance, they will go to the Upper Galilee in order to learn about its flora and fauna, to the Negev to learn about its geography and archeology or to Jerusalem to learn about its history and ethnic elements.

Yet however active the oldsters may be, they cannot ignore the special problems of their age group. Thus the *Spectator* carries many stories that stress the importance of such things as alarm systems and yearly medical checkups. Also featured regularly are discussions about making out a will in Israel, North America or both.

Several hundred copies of the bulletin are distributed in the United States and Canada, mainly to people who are contemplating aliyah. Financial problems remain an obstacle, but, says Editor David Breslau, "they would be less serious were potential immigrants willing to forego settlement in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem, where living costs are particularly high. Social Security checks would go a lot further," he adds, "in an outlying community or a kibbutz retirement home."

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CJN Exclusive Heather Reisman

As president of Cott Corporation, now the leading supplier of retailer-branded beverages in North America, Heather Reisman, 45, is putting into practice the New Age business philosophy she espoused as a consultant for well over a dozen years. Before joining Cott last year, Reisman was managing director of her own firm, Paradigm Consulting Inc.

A member of the board of advisers of the Harvard Business School, Reisman has also served as a consultant to the Abella Royal Commission of Inquiry on Equality in Employment (1983), and was chair of the Ontario Liberal Party Future Focus Conference in 1987. She serves on several boards of directors, among them Mount Sinai Hospital's.

CJN reporter Frances Kraft recently spoke to Reisman at her Toronto office.

CJN: *What do you mean when you describe Cott as a "New Age kind of company?"*

Reisman: We are a company obsessed with the notion of finding ways to bring greater value to the consumer, in our case through retailers who are serving those consumers.

We're also finding ways to leverage the talent of the people we recruit to work with us, by bringing together the best people so that they can do the best they can.

In older, more traditional companies the focus was more on making products. We could afford to use only part of the potential and take consumers for granted.

In the New World, we can't. Consumers are much more demanding, they're much better informed, and we have more competition. The people who buy good quality store brand products are not just people who would typically be price shoppers. It's also people who feel that it's wrong to waste money or resources.

New Age companies recognize implicitly and architect into the way they think about, develop, manufacture and distribute products, and the way they service customers — all that chain — how they can do it the best and for the lowest cost.

CJN: *How would you describe your management style?*

Reisman: I have a very open, involved style, and that's for a couple of reasons.

We are in an unusual position of being both a little company and a big company. We're big enough that there are 700 employees and we're doing lots of things all over North America and different parts of the world.

But we're a little company in that, relatively speaking, we have grown over just a few years. People know each other all over the company, and it's a very open, friendly, hands-on kind of place.

We — that is, the top management team — are deliberately trying to perpetuate that kind of culture. That means that the senior people are involved in day-to-day activities as well as having responsibility for the strategic direction.

CJN: *Cott's profits increased by 58 percent to $12.8 million in your most recent fiscal year. How do you go about making a profit when your products sell for considerably less than the major brands?*

Reisman: And they're of equal quality. That's very important. Obviously, our end-to-end cost structure does have to be different. For a number of reasons our production costs are a little lower, but where we really have advantages is in our approach to marketing and distribution.

CJN: *How does your approach to marketing and distribution differ?*

Reisman: I'll give you an example. The national brand will spend literally millions of dollars in each of their major markets keeping their name in front of consumers. All of that money, we say, really doesn't add any value to the product in the can.

If we can put a product of equal quality in a quality package, and if we have retailers who have a relationship with their local consumers, we'll help those retailers introduce the product to the consumer under their brand name. If the product tastes as good as their favorite brand and costs less, they will buy it.

CJN: *In other words, any marketing that's done is done through the retailer.*

Reisman: We help them. We'll help with point-of-sale material or point-of-sale activity that will encourage the consumer to take a little risk and try a retailer branded product. In that way it's very efficient. It's targeted. It leverages the investment that the retailer already has. You already have a relationship with your supermarket.

We also try and tailor distribution. A lot of retailers have an investment in warehousing and distribution. If that's the case, we'll deliver it to their warehouse for less money. If a retailer doesn't have the [storage capacity], of course we deliver to their stores. We might charge a little more, but we won't charge as much as our competitors.

Essentially we're looking at the whole chain of activities that goes from raw material to the consumer.

CJN: *How do you explain Cott's successful results over the past year or two, in light of the recession?*

Reisman: There are two points. Obviously in a period that's economically difficult, people will be even more concerned with the quality-value equation.

[Our success] is not a recession-driven phenomenon, because this is not just about consumers managing in a tough year or a tough couple of years and then going back to doing things the way they were.

We as consumers have changed fundamentally. We absolutely will not waste. This is a societal shift. It's been gathering momentum for the better part of a decade and a half.

This period of restructuring, which some people are labelling a recession, is not a blip waiting for a correction. It is the high point of a fundamental change, and when things get better we will come out into a world with more demanding, more value-conscious consumers, retailers who are much better tuned to responding to them, and manufacturers who are much more committed to understanding how to help retailers service the consumer.

CJN: *At Cott's annual meeting your shareholders were told that store brand soft drinks outsold Coke and Pepsi during an eight-week period this spring. Are you at the stage now where you don't have to worry about competing with the major brands?*

Reisman: I think the day we're in trouble is the day we stop thinking and worrying about how to make what we do better. I think it's important to keep in perspective that we are a very, very tiny company compared to Coke or Pepsi.

It's not so much that we worry about the competition, although we pay attention to it. What occupies our time is understanding how to grab hold of the full opportunity before us.

CJN: *Are you still officially involved in the Liberal party?*

Reisman: Absolutely. I'm a card-carrying, perfectly committed member of the Liberal party. I'm not actively involved right now. Frankly, [Cott] and some community work are taking up most of my time, so I'm a little remiss in my political involvement.

CJN: *How do you think business leaders in general can contribute to Canada's well-being?*

Reisman: By actively working to find ways to build companies that thrive in this New World, so we can demonstrate by example what it takes to thrive.

If the critical mass of people can do that, I think that will eventually have an influence on political thinking, which is very much mired in Old World thinking and therefore ineffective. There's not enough New World thinking yet to help inform political thought.

CJN: *Do you think more is expected of [Prime Minister] Kim Campbell because she's a woman?*

Reisman: Maybe. I think people have high aspirations for her. I must say, I felt emotionally affected by the fact that we now have elected a woman prime minister. I think that a lot of people concerned with women's rights are hoping that she will do well, or are pleased that she's there.

I think we fool ourselves if we don't think that there are still a lot of stereotypes about women, and it would be great if some of those stereotypes were dispelled as a result of her being there.

CJN: *Do you think that women have to play by men's rules to be successful in business?*

Reisman: I think to a great extent business and society in general are still being run by traditional rules of the game, created by men.

I think there's no question that [there is a] need to reflect in corporate policies and practices various things which are supportive to women and to families.

I think organizations that don't actively promote the concept of flexibility — not just formal flex-time — allowing women who are mothers the opportunity to openly make trade-offs, are being completely unfair.

As a small example of a corporate policy, we would say here that if you want to do something that you think is important for your family, you make that decision on your own. Of course, somehow or other, your work has to be done, but you should never feel guilty because family is important.

CJN: *Is that why you started your own consulting company instead of working for somebody else?*

Reisman: Yes. I think I was entrepreneurial anyway. My interest was in change management, and there wasn't a change management business, so I had to start one.

But I think even had there been, I would have ended up entrepreneurial because I desperately would have needed the flexibility. If I wanted to work between 12 and 2 in the morning, that was up to me, but my **priority** was always my family, it still is my family, it will always be my family.

I'm a huge proponent of family. I think it's the very centre of society. I think that the most enlightened organizations will recognize that.

CJN: *Do you think it's possible to achieve a balance between work and family without anything suffering?*

Reisman: Yes. Nobody can have it all, but I think you can enjoy a number of things in your life if you balance it out over time.

My experience [as a married woman and mother of four] is, with some balance, you certainly can live your life with a family, with work and with some community [involvement], providing you don't try and do it all by the time you're 30.

We probably have 60 years to build our careers, with good health, better approaches and a little bit of good luck. Most people have a much shorter amount of time to build families. I think it really is critical to develop that perspective.

I think it's incumbent on women who have struggled through and been fortunate enough to find the balance to talk about that, particularly to younger women.

CJN: *How is the general business community progressing in its attitudes toward women?*

Reisman: Relatively speaking, we're still at an early stage, despite the fact that this has been going on for a good 25 years or so. I think we can accelerate our transition, and we must, but we lived in a male-dominated society for hundreds of years, if not thousands.

I do think that the organizations at the leading edge of understanding how to embrace women in the working world will be the best, because they'll have the best talent pool to pull from, both men and women.

CJN: *Do you think the business world will be able to reabsorb all the management level employees who have lost their jobs because of the recession?*

Reisman: Absolutely. There is no question that we will find ourselves in a much better position in a few years. Every day there are more people learning what it takes to thrive in this New World, and as those people are in leadership positions, that will result in new opportunities for work.

I honestly believe that we have turned a corner as a society. Nobody is pretending that there isn't a need to change. Nobody is pretending that if we just hunker down, this recession will go away and we can go back to doing things the way we used to.

Sooner or later there will be enough pressure so that as a country we are more supportive to entrepreneurs, because that's the engine for new jobs and new growth.

For example, bankruptcy laws that are more conducive to allowing people to fall down and get up again would be an institutional recognition of what makes sense in the New World.

We're not there yet, for sure, but I'm optimistic because I believe these kinds of discussions are beginning to take place.

CJN: *Do you think the government is doing enough to create jobs?*

Reisman: I love when people ask me that question, because I don't think it's the government's job to create jobs. I think that is one of the most misguided concepts.

Government is not supposed to create jobs nor do they have any record of being effective at creating value-creating jobs. They do employ a lot of people and their employment rolls keep growing, but whether that strengthens or weakens the country is a good question. I think it weakens it.

Wouldn't we be better off to say it's government's job to create an environment in which entrepreneurs can create jobs? That includes the kind of banking, bankruptcy and taxation legislation which will support entrepreneurship, capital formation and job creation, not make-work programs.

CJN: *What is your opinion of the health care system here?*

Reisman: This is a critical area. I am desperately worried that the way we are managing the correction that has to happen in health care — so it doesn't get out of control from a financial point of view — is resulting in enormous demotivation in health care professionals.

Health care professionals are feeling undervalued, and if that feeling turns into alienation, our best health care professionals are simply going to vote with their feet.

We're still getting good health care while that alienation is building up. The problem is that by the time we feel it, great doctors will have left, innovation will have left, commitment will have left, and it will take decades to rebuild the level of quality that we currently have.

Israeli envoy returns to his homeland

By PAUL LUNGEN

BUDAPEST — In 1944, when he and his family were removed from their home in northern Hungary, David Kraus was just a frightened youth unaware of the fate that awaited them in Auschwitz.

One of eight brothers and sisters, Kraus was the only one to survive. Like other Jews devastated by the Holocaust, the young survivor settled on a move to Israel where he hoped to pick up the pieces of his shattered life.

About 18 months ago, he finally returned to Hungary — not as a visitor to his former homeland, but as the ambassador in charge of Israel's diplomatic mission.

"This assignment has special meaning for me," Kraus said in a recent interview in his comfortable office in the Buda section of town. "When they sent a 14-year-old to camp and he returns as ambassador, it has special meaning."

A novice in the world of foreign relations, the Budapest posting is Kraus' first-ever diplomatic assignment. A 40-year veteran of the Israeli police force, he served as national police commissioner from 1985-90.

Making his assignment doubly difficult is the fact that, like other East European nations, Hungary broke off diplomatic relations with Israel in the wake of the 1967 Six Day War. From the time of that seminal event, the Hungarian people were deluged with anti-Israel propaganda and "disinformation," Kraus said. "Catching up for 20 years in three is very hard."

Ambassador David Kraus

Among its East European neighbors, Hungary was the first to renew relations with the Jewish state in 1987 and it has permitted 200,000 mostly Russian immigrants to traverse the country on their way to Israel.

The government of Hungary has adopted a new, "positive" posture towards Israel that is "friendly and sympathetic," Kraus said. That is reflected in UN votes and maneuvers where Hungary helped sponsor the move to dissolve the Zionism is Racism resolution, Kraus said.

Other diplomatic gestures include reciprocal visits of the countries' presidents and prime ministers as well as government ministers and non-governmental groups.

While Hungary continues to recognize the PLO and allows the Palestinian organization to maintain an ambassador in Budapest, the current government "sees the crisis of the Middle East as an internal, regional one that the nations there must solve," Kraus said.

That attitude is a complete reversal of the country's position under communism when Hungary was fully "on the Arab side," he added.

The ambassador suggested that nowadays, the average Hungarian sees Israel as a "very brave country that knows how to solve its own problems. They see it as a model in defence, police, agriculture, education and culture" and they study it in those areas.

Unlike the situation elsewhere, the Hungarian Jewish community does not have much influence over government policies, he added.

The diplomatic thaw of recent years has had an impact on trade relations. In 1986, the two countries did $16 million in business but by 1993, that figure had swollen to $100 million, with Israel enjoying a slight edge in the trade balance.

Israel's primary exports to Hungary include chemical products, telephone parts, fruits, medical equipment, computers and other high tech equipment. Hungary sends Israel aluminum, metal cables, fertilizer and household products.

Facilitating the trade ties is the fact that Israel has about 200,000 Hungarian-speakers. While some do business with their former homeland, others go on trips to see relatives and tend family graves.

On average, 40,000 Israelis visit Hungary each year, and while the numbers are fewer going the other way, there is a steady stream of visitors heading to Israel, mostly on religious pilgrimages, Kraus said.

Few Hungarian Jews are taking advantage of the chance to move to Israel. In 1992, only 110 people took the plunge.

Zionist-oriented organizations are now prospering in Hungary, Kraus said, among them the Jewish Agency, WIZO, a Zionist federation and a variety of youth groups, among them Hashomer Hatzair, Bnei Akiva, Habonim and Betar.

Despite the improved relations between Israel and Hungary and the breath of freedom now being enjoyed by the Jewish community, security remains a concern. It was only 18 months ago that a bus full of Soviet olim was attacked on the way to the airport. Two Hungarian policemen were badly injured in the car bomb attack, though none of the olim was hurt.

The ambassador said police believe the attack was the work of Arab terrorists.

Donning the hat of a longtime policeman, Kraus said proper security measures make such attacks more difficult. And, not forgetting his 40 years in that field, the ambassador said he would like to send his regards to RCMP commissioner Norman Inkster, who he knows through their work at Interpol.

N. Korea shipped Scuds to Syria, Rabin charges

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Sunday that North Korea sent Scud-C missiles to Damascus two days after U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher left the region earlier this month.

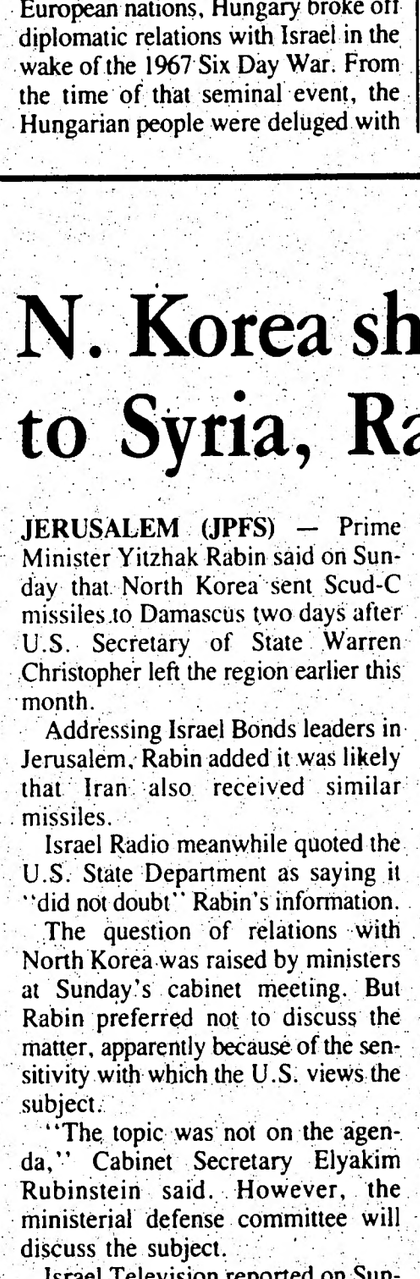
Addressing Israel Bonds leaders in Jerusalem, Rabin added it was likely that Iran also received similar missiles.

Israel Radio meanwhile quoted the U.S. State Department as saying it "did not doubt" Rabin's information.

The question of relations with North Korea was raised by ministers at Sunday's cabinet meeting. But Rabin preferred not to discuss the matter, apparently because of the sensitivity with which the U.S. views the subject.

"The topic was not on the agenda," Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein said. However, the ministerial defense committee will discuss the subject.

Israel Television reported on Sunday that Rabin is reconsidering pursuing contacts with North Korea and tends to accept Washington's view that Israel should keep a relatively low profile in relations with Pyongyang.



Yitzhak Rabin

While the Syrians have Scud-B missiles capable of striking most of the Israel's populated areas, the Scud-C missile they are now receiving would allow them to locate missile launchers deeper in Syria, making it more difficult to destroy them, according to Dr. Ze'ev Eytan of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies.

At the Israel Bonds event, Rabin said Islamic fundamentalism poses the greatest threat to peace in the Middle East. Extreme Islamic interpretations of the Koran are part of a dangerous trend, the power and source of which is Iran, he said.

"The arms race is going on," said Rabin, emphasizing that Iran is investing huge amounts in both conventional and nonconventional weapons, in an attempt to become the superpower of the Middle East.

Commending the U.S. as the only country outside Israel which recognizes this threat, Rabin praised President Bill Clinton for calling for the containment of both Iraq and Iran. Rabin said this showed "a realization of the larger potential threat of Iran."

Rabin said that while the Iraqi approach is a forceful imperialist use of power, Iran's methods are "more sophisticated." Iran encourages support from extremist terrorist movements in all Arab countries. These, in turn, are fighting the moderate regimes that support the peace negotiations, he said.

The Likud Knesset faction on Sunday issued a statement demanding that Rabin inform Syrian President Hafez Assad that he has changed his position concerning a withdrawal from the Golan in view of the Syria's purchase of Scud-C missiles. This purchase indicates Syria is preparing for war, rather than for peace, the faction spokesman said.

HONORING THE CANADIAN COMMUNITY

The commitment of the Canadian Jewish community to Israel, both practically and personally, has always been one of the more outstanding contributions from Diaspora communities. To mark Canadian Jewry's contribution to the development of the Jaffa Daled area in south Tel Aviv, a street has been named Canadian Jewish Community Street in honor of all the help given to develop this low-income neighborhood. From left: Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, United Jewish Appeal Canadian president Gerry Halbert and UJA vice-president Steve Ain at the ceremony changing the name of Shen'ari Street to Kehilat Canada. [IPPA photo]

Israel's High Court of Justice to decide on Demjanjuk's release

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — The High Court of Justice is to rule on Aug. 18 whether to release John Demjanjuk or try him a second time for alleged Nazi war crimes, the Justice Ministry announced last Sunday.

The three-judge panel will give its decision in response to 10 petitions demanding Demjanjuk be tried for war crimes committed at Sobibor, Flossenburg, Regensburg, Pillau and Trawniki.

The Supreme Court last month overturned the conviction of him being "Ivan the Terrible," a sadistic gas chamber operator at Treblinka, on grounds of reasonable doubt.

Attorney-General Yosef Harish last week recommended against putting Demjanjuk on trial again.

Meanwhile, the World Jewish Congress has called on Harish to clarify the contacts between him and the United States before he gave his recommendation.

Last week, the WJC obtained a copy of a letter sent by the first secretary of the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv to the Justice Ministry, warning that further detention of Demjanjuk would violate the terms of his extradition.

Since the State Department has said the letter was unauthorized, the WJC claims that Harish may have been "deceived" into recommending the release of Demjanjuk.

The WJC in the U.S. has pledged to oppose John Demjanjuk's return there.

"Should Demjanjuk be released, we will take every legal action to keep him out of the United States," Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, told *The Jerusalem Post*. "If he is returned nevertheless, we will take every legal action to remove him from this country."

In Los Angeles, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, also warned that if Demjanjuk is released, it will fuel Holocaust revisionists for decades.

Religious funding changes are proposed

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A committee appointed by the Israeli government to review the function and performance of local religious councils has recommended sweeping changes that could give new legitimacy — and funding — to the Reform and Conservative movements here.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has asked Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Rafael Pinhasi to review the findings and recommend within 60 days which should be implemented.

Though not all are expected to be accepted, some of the changes could depoliticize and otherwise radically alter the publicly supported, Orthodox-controlled religious establishment.

The councils oversee the gamut of religious services, from marriage to burial, from mikvehs to synagogue maintenance, from kashrut to the supply of prayerbooks and prayer shawls.

Suggesting funding changes

Among the most far-reaching suggestions is for Reform and Conservative institutions to receive funding from the local religious councils for their religious operations on the same basis as Orthodox and haredi (fervently Orthodox) institutions. Currently, while they are eligible to apply, they receive little such funding, if any.

The committee also has recommended allowing for Reform and Conservative representation on local councils, where it is currently barred.

"We did not make a decision as to the status of the Reform and Conservative movements or call for their official recognition," said Isaac Herzog, a member of the review committee.

"But we enabled them in a technical sense to enjoy equality," he said. "This is a government body, and all citizens are equal. This removes the monopoly of one stream (Orthodoxy) over religious services."

"We have been neglected for years" by the religious councils, explained P'nina Libni, spokeswoman for the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism's Religious Action Committee. In their eyes, she said, "we have not existed."

"I think the government will accept some of the recommendations, and that will make a difference," said Libni. "I hope it will be the beginning of a new legitimacy."

Other proposals include streamlining the system by eliminating many local councils and consolidating them into regional councils, reducing the number of members on the councils who are volunteers, and radically cutting the number of publicly paid council directors.

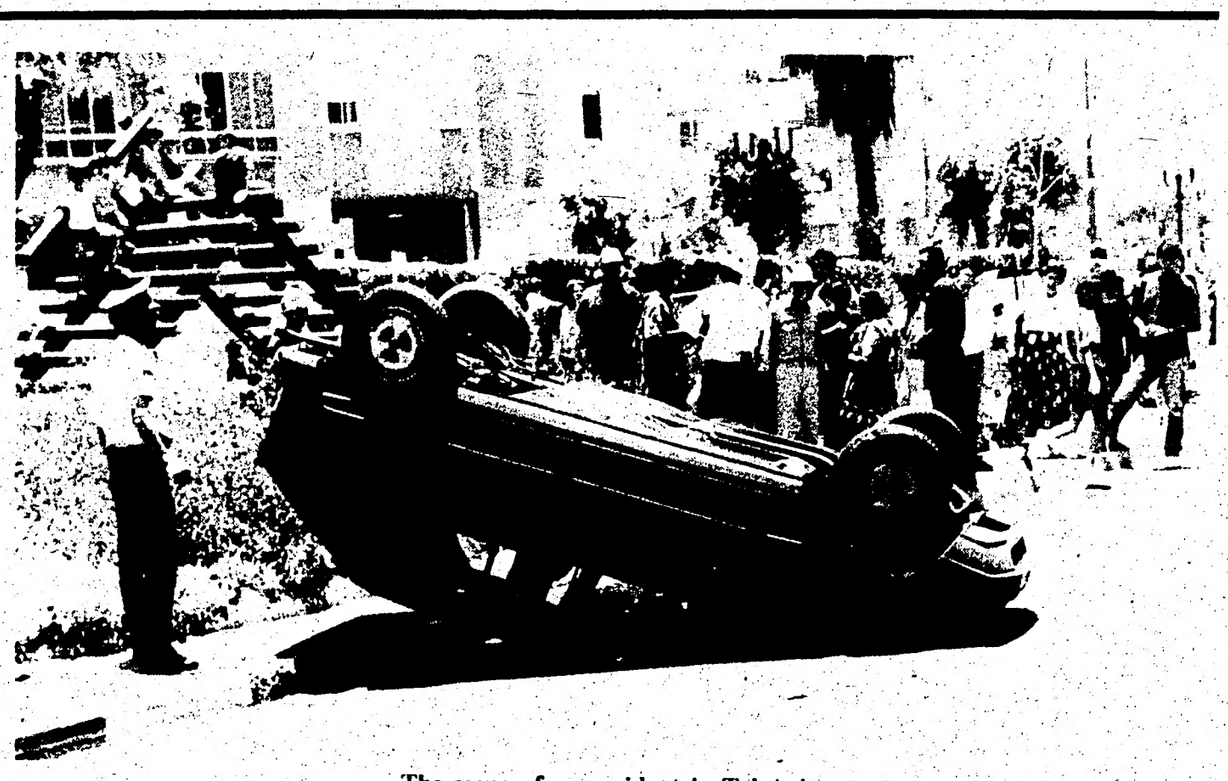
The committee, which was headed by former Justice and Religious Affairs Minister Chaim Zadok, also called for the reorganization of the kosher certification system in the wake of widespread abuse and corruption.

The reorganization would entail issuing new, standard criteria for the kosher certification of establishments and the formation of a public corporation to pay Israel's 12,000 kashrut supervisors. Currently these supervisors are paid by the very establishments they oversee.

Also key is a proposal to reform and standardize burial rules and practices, which have long been a target of complaints.

"The current system is wasteful and not well-managed," said Herzog. "There is no accountability, and no one has ever defined the services people are entitled to."

The committee's findings are "a big blow to the politicization of the system," he said. "It makes it more professional."



The scene of an accident in Tel Aviv.

Israel's road accidents claim high number of fatalities

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

TEL AVIV — Amazingly enough, road accidents claim the lives of more people in Israel than wars and terrorism, yet Israelis shrug it off.

"If the enemy had slain us to this extent, the country would quake," Chaim Herzog, the former Israeli president, declared in a scolding 1992 New Year message.

Last year, Israel recorded 22,186 accidents which killed 502 pedestrians and injured 37,432.

Among the victims was Yoram Ben-Porath, president of the Hebrew University, his wife, Yael, and their five-year-old son, Yahali.

The death toll has been steadily rising, Zion Masuri, secretary-general of the Israel National Council for the Prevention of Accidents, said in an interview.

In 1954, the year it was founded, 4,691 accidents resulted in the deaths of 184 Israelis and caused some 5,700 injuries.

Throughout the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, accidents and fatalities mounted as the number of vehicles on the roads increased exponentially.

In the late 1980s, there was a marked decrease in highway deaths, as more drivers heeded warnings to exercise caution. Yet the number of accidents kept rising, from 15,517 in 1988 to 19,510 in 1991.

Israel has always been plagued by accidents. But in the early years of statehood, when car ownership was beyond the means of virtually all Israelis, the accident rate was kept within fairly reasonable bounds.

Masuri, a former army brigadier-general, said there were only 20,000 to 30,000 vehicles in Israel in the mid-1950s, the vast majority of which belonged to the armed forces.

But even back then, David Ben-Gurion, the prime minister, complained to the chief of staff that accidents were snuffing out more lives than terrorism.

It's clear that the Israeli mania for cars, a sign of rising prosperity and consumerism, is partly at the root of the problem.

Twenty years ago, when the consumer revolution was getting under way in earnest, 250,000 vehicles were in use.

The number rose to 961,999 in 1988 and to 1,000,000 in 1989. Today there are something like 1.4 million vehicles on the roads, and if Masuri's prediction is borne out, there will be 2 million by 1998.

Right now, Israel has the dubious distinction of holding the world's record for the highest density of vehicles per kilometre of road — 81, compared to 47 in 1981.

In 1992, there were 413 deaths in Israel per million vehicles, considerably fewer than in other Mediterranean countries. But in comparison to the United States and northern Europe, Israel fares badly.

In Masuri's judgment, Israel simply hasn't spent enough to build a proper network of roads. "We're 20 years behind countries like the United States and Germany.

It may well be a function of politics. In Israel, an average of 45 shekels per person was invested in road-building, compared to 270 shekels in the territories, a 1991 Peace Now report disclosed.

At present, Israel has 14,000 kilometres of road, of which 4,000 kilometres consist of modern highways.

But, as anyone who has driven in Israel knows, the roads are in need of repair.

Carelessness and recklessness, however, account for most accidents, Masuri observed.

"The typical Israeli driver is excessively self-confident and impatient. Drivers speed, do not maintain a proper distance between cars and signal improperly."

And the summer heat doesn't help matters, he added.

Drunken driving, while a negligible factor today, is coming into its own as immigrants from the former Soviet Union arrive.

"New Soviet drivers are accustomed to drinking and driving," Masuri noted.

What they consider mild drinking is considered heavy drinking in Israel.

The ministry of transportation is planning to construct 1,500 kilometres of new roads over the next decade. This is supposed to ease congestion and thus cut down on accidents.

But Masuri is skeptical. "It won't be enough. There will be constant traffic jams."

Nevertheless, Masuri believes that the government is taking the problem seriously.

•Commuter lines, connecting major cities with suburbs, are under construction. The $1 billion (U.S.) project will be finished in about a decade.

•A special road safety committee has been established.

•The ministry of education, in conjunction with the army, has introduced a highway safety program in schools.

•Backseat passengers in cars manufactured after 1987 must now don seat belts, or risk a $78 (U.S.) fine.

More can be done, said Masuri.

Employers should stop giving employees cars and automobile allowances on top of their salaries.

And the nation's railroad system, with only 300 kilometre of track, should be expanded.

"This is part of the solution."

Multicultural progress reports

By MAURICE LUCOW

VICTORIA — The NDP government has decreed that every ministry and Crown corporation must submit a progress report every year on how they have promoted multiculturalism.

Bill 39, the Multiculturalism Act, states that it is government policy to "carry on government services and programs in a manner that is sensitive and responsive to the multicultural reality of British Columbia."

The legislation, introduced by multiculturalism minister Anita Hagen, requires every ministry and government corporation to submit a report, by May 31 of each year, "setting out the initiatives it has undertaken to promote the Act's policies."

Hagen said the government's multicultural grants budget has been doubled to $1 million.

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Registration is now underway for the 1993/94 academic year.

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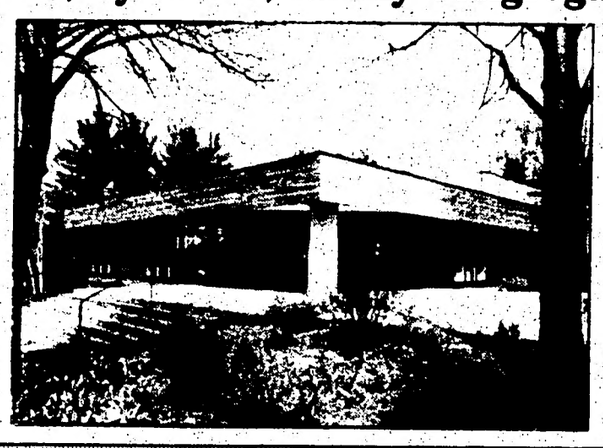

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Wordsmiths get ready for Scrabble

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Triple word score this: Canada is sending an all-Jewish team to the world Scrabble championships, to take place Aug. 27 to 30 in New York City.

Held every two years, the worlds brings together some of the sharpest Scrabble players on the planet. In other words, these aren't the ones who spell "cat" or "if" after thinking about it for 10 minutes.

Canada's crack wordsmiths will consist of Zev Kaufman and Robin Pollock of Toronto, Joel Wapnick of Montreal and Adam Logan of Ottawa, an 18-year-old math student at Princeton University.

The contest will take place at New York's posh Plaza Hotel, with players from most of the world's English-speaking countries vying for an indivudual world champ title.

Peter Morris, a Canadian studying in the United States, took the world title at the last tournament, held in 1991 in Australia.

Israel will also send a team to New York.

Kaufman, a 45-year-old contractor, took up Scrabble in 1981 and soon found himself doing what many top players do: reading the dictionary to memorize obscure words, preferably short and with high-scoring Xs or Qs in them.

This year, he won the Toronto Scrabble Club's championship.

Kaufman scores an average 405 points per game. His game high is 666 points.

Playing a parlor game at the world level is, well, no game, says Kaufman.

"It's mentally very grueling. We use chess clocks and the pressure can be tremendous," he told *The CJN*.

Under international rules, anything found in one of the foremost English dictionaries, *Chamber's*, which lists over 150,000 words, can be used in Scrabble. That includes place and proper names, slang, technical terms, even the odd vulgarity.

And of course, any Yiddishism — and there are plenty in the dictionary — is permitted.

Challenges are allowed and if the challenger is wrong, he or she does not lose a turn.

Pollock, a 31-year-old doctoral student in psychology and the University of Toronto, is the sole woman on the team and is ranked third overall in Canada.

"There's a huge psychological component to Scrabble," she says. "There's lots of tension. You need a good deal of strategy and visual sense."

Wapnick, a 47-year-old music teacher at McGill University, is Canada's top-ranked player who began the game at age 9 and started playing competitively 18 years ago.

He had a "miserable" outing at the last worlds but is raring to go this time.

Rounding out Canada's squad is Logan, described by his mother as a "math whiz" who began playing at age 9 and "is good at so many things, including Scrabble."

NAME GAME

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr Catzman reports on his research in *The CJN*.

* * *

BOKHAUT — LYMAN

Murry Bokhaut, of Thornhill, has written me about his unusual surname. He was told that the literal translation of his name is goat skin. Bock is a he-goat or ram, and Haut is skin or hide. It compares with Hirschaut — deerskin. Although goatskin is normally called Ziengenfell, the name may be occupational like the English Skinner.

Mr. Bokhaut also enquires about the name Lyman. Lehman describes the business of money-lending. Leihman (pronounced Lyman) was a pawnbroker.

SISCHY

Benzion Sischy, of Toronto, has dispensed justice with dedication and intelligence for a number of years as a Master of the Supreme Court of Ontario, now the Ontario Court (General Division). His unusual surname has excited my curiosity particularly in combination with his Hebrew given name.

I tracked it down to a shtetl in newly independent Byelorussia (White Russia) called Sychi or Syczi.

The hamlet is not far from the city of Pinsk, the birthplace of Chaim Weitzman, first president of Israel.

ייִדיש ווינקל
YIDDISH CORNER

רעדאַגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

פּרץ מיראַנסקי, ע״ה

פון ש. סימכאָוויטש

שבת פֿאַרטאָג, דעם 10-טן יולי, איז אַוועק אין דער אייביקייט דער טאָראָנטער יידישער פּאָעט און משלים-שרייבער פרץ מיראַנסקי.

מיראַנסקיס ליסטעראַרישער יחוס זיט זיך נאָך פון פֿאַר דער צווייטער וועלט-מלחמה, ווען ער האָט געהערט צו „יונג-ווילנע", אַ ליטעראַרישע גרופּע, וואָס האָט אַרויסגעגעבן אַזעלכע טאָמעס ווי חיים גראָדע, אלחנן וואָגלער, לייזער וואָלף, הירש גליק און -- אים צו לאָנגע יאָרן -- אברהם סוצקעווער. דער דייטשער איבערפאָל אויפן סאָוועט-רוסלאַנד האָט אים פֿאַרוואָגלט אין ווייטן סאָמאַרקאַנד, מיטל-אַזיע, וואו ער האָט איבערגעלעבט די מלחמה יאָרן. ערשט נאָך זיין באַזעצן זיך אין קאַנאַדע איז אַרויסגעקומען זיין ערשט לי-דער-בוך „אַ ליכט פֿאַר אַ גראָשן" (מאָנטרעאָל, 1951). פון דעמאָלט אָן דערשיינען אָפט מיראַנסקיס פּאָעטישע שאפונגען אויף די שפּאָלטן פון יידישע זשורנאַלן און צייטונגען אין קאַנאַדע, די פֿאַראייניקטע שטאַטן און מדינת ישראל. פון צייט צו צייט ווערן זיי אייגנעזאַמלט אין נייע ביכער -- „שורות שירה" (תל-אביב, 1974); „צווישן שמייכל און טרויער" (מאָנטרעאָל, 1979), און „נישט דערזאָגט" (תל-אביב, 1983).

אין די אַלע ווערק האָט פרץ מיראַנסקי זיך אַנטפלעקט ווי אַן אָריגינעלער פּאָעט און משלים-שרייבער, א מייסטער פון יידישן לשון. אין דער הינזיכט איז מיראַנסקי געווען אַ ווירדיקער פֿאָרזעצער פון דער פּאָעטישער טראַדיציע פון לייב ניידוס און משה קולבאַק, צוזאַמען מיט די נאָכ-קומענדיקע יונג-ווילניאַנער, וואָס האָבן אויסגע-מייסטערט דאָס יידיש-פּאָעטישע לשון.

יידישע דיכטונג איז פֿאַר מיראַנסקין געווען „דער בלויער מזמור" פון זיין לעבן, און די שאַ-פערס סון יידישן וואָרט -- זיינע העלדן, וועמען ער האָט געווידמעט אַ גרויסע צאָל לידער. דאָס קען מען זען ספּעציעל אין דעם רייכן גראַמען-אוצר, וואָס ער האָט געשאַפן.

ווי אַ סך אַנדערע יידישע דיכטער האָט מיראַנסקי געווייטיקט איבער דעם מצב פון יידיש-לשון און ליטעראַטור, וואָס האָט פֿאַרלוירן איר נאַטיר-לעכע באַזע מיטן פֿאַרלוסט פון די מיליאָנען יידיש-רעדער אין מזרח-אייראָפּע. אָט דער צוויי-איקער חורבן, דער פיזישער ווי דער גייסטיקער, גייט דורך ווי אַ רויטע שנור אין זיין שאַפן. דער דיכטער פֿאַרגלייכט זיך צו אַ „שוואַרצן אָרון" אין וועלכן עס ליגן טויטע טויבן, „וויסע ווי שניי" -- אַ פּאָעטישער אימאַזש פון זיין אומגעבראכטער מש-פּחה, זיין היימשטאָט, זיין פֿאָלק.

אויב אין זיינע לירישע שאַפונגען איז מיראַנסקי געווען איינער פון אַ פלעיאַדע יידישע פּאָעטן און מקוננים, איז ער אָבער געווען אַ יחיד במינו ווי אַ משלים-שרייבער. דאָ האָט ער זיך אַרויסגעוויזן ווי אַ ווירדיקער ממשיך פון אליעזר שטיינבארג, דעם קלאַסיקער פון משל אין דער יידישער ליטעראַ-טור. מיראַנסקי האָט באַרייכערט דעם יידישן משל מיט אייגענער איינפֿאַלערישקייט און שפּי-לעוודיקייט.

פֿאַר די איבער דרייסיק יאָר, וואָס פרץ מיראַנסקי האָט געוואוינט אין טאָראָנטא איז ער געווען געזעלשאַפטלעך אַקטיוו אין יידיש-קאָמי-טעט ביים קאַנאַדער יידישן קאָנגרעס, אין דער היגער קולטור-געזעלשאפט, פֿאָלקס-ביבליאָטעק א.א. די טאָראָנטער יידישע געזעלשאפט האָט אים דערפֿאַר אַרויסגעווויזן גרויס כּבוד און אָנער-קענונג, ספּעציעל ביי דעם אימפּאָזאַנטן אָוונט לכּבוד זיין וועלן א בן-שמונים.

אין משך פון די לעצטע יאָרן, ווען זיין געזונט-צושטאַנד האָט אים געצוואונגען צו פֿאַרבלייבן אין הויז, אונטער דער השגחה פון זיין טרייער פרוי סאַבע, האָט מיראַנסקי ממשיך געווען צו שרייבן און פֿאַרעפנטלעכן לידער און משלים אין פֿאַרשיידענע צייטשריפטן. פיל פון זיי זיינען אייג-געזאַמלט געוואָרן אין זיין לעצט בוך „אַ זָמר פון דעמער" (טאָראָנטא, 1991), וואָס האָט געקראָנט גוטע אָפּשאַצן פון דער קריטיק, ווי אויך די פרע-מיע פון בוך-קאָמיטעט פון דער יידישער פעדעראַ-ציע פון גרויס-טאָראָנטא.

פרץ מיראַנסקי האָט אַריינגעשריבן אַ שיין קא-פּיטל אין דער קאַנאַדער יידישער ליטעראַטור. זיין נאָמען וועט אויך פֿאַראייביקט ווערן דורך אַ ספּע-ציעלן „פרץ מיראַנסקי פֿאָנד", וואָס איז עטאַב-לירט געוואָרן אין 1988, בעת זיין ווערן 80 יאָר, כּדי צו שטיצן די יידישע ליטעראַטור און קולטור אין קאַנאַדע, אין אַלע אירע מאַניפעסטאַציעס.

כּבוד זיין אַנדענק!

The News in Brief

Givat Haviva Wins Award

JERUSALEM — The El-Aziz Zu'Abi Institute for Arabic Studies at Givat Haviva has received an education award from Israel's Ministry of Education and Culture. The award, presented annually, is considered a prestigious one.

Givat Haviva was established in 1949 to promote understanding between Israeli Arabs and Jews. All of its Jewish-Arab programs are initiated at its Institute for Arabic Studies. Among them are programs such as Children Teaching Children, which pairs Jewish and Arab junior high school students who meet regularly for at least a year, and Face to Face, a three-day workshop bringing together Arab and Jewish high school students.

* * *

Conference planned

Vancouver — Plans are in the works to hold a February conference here for Canadian Jewish Congress representatives from all Western provinces. The event will mark Congress' 75th anniversary.

According to conference chair Marilyn Hooper, the focus will be on issues of Jewish continuity, advocacy and building bridges in a pluralistic society. Keynote speakers will discuss these issues "from a worldwide perspective as well as from a Western regional viewpoint," said Hooper.

Frances Switzer is chair of a gala, which will be held in connection with the parley; Dr. Naomi Gal-Or is chair of programming; and Zena Simces Katz is chair of the publicity committee.

The Western provinces include Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

* * *

No jobs for teachers

JERUSALEM — More than 1,300 immigrant teachers won't have jobs for the coming year due to lack of education ministry funds, said deputy education minister Micha Goldman.

Absorption Minister Yair Tsaban described the problem as critical and said the investment in these teachers would be wasted if they left the education system. Goldman also reported that although some 80,000 olim pupils would be returning to school in a few weeks, between 5,000 and 7,000 young olim of school age were in no educational framework.

* * *

Mother-in-law problem

HAIFA — Seventy-five percent of Israeli women are dissatisfied with their relationships with their mothers-in-law, while only 25 percent are dissatisfied with their relationships with their daughters-in-law, according to a survey conducted by a Haifa University graduate. Sara Breselman interviewed 158 women, none of whom were related to each other.

* * *

Jewish school opens

BERLIN — Germany's first postwar Jewish high school turned out to be a major media event, with no less than 11 camera teams and 70 reporters covering the opening.

Staring into three radio microphones, the leader of Berlin's Jewish community, Jerry Kanal, described the school's opening as "a historic and important" event.

The school, in eastern Berlin, is in the city's old Jewish neighborhood, the Scheunenviertel. It is located in a building that had been a Jewish school since 1906.

Hitler closed it in 1942 and turned it into a deportation centre.

* * *

Symphony cancels Indian tour

JERUSALEM — The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra (JSO) has cancelled its projected Indian tour to protest the Indian government's attempt to delete the word "Jerusalem" from its official title.

Invited by the Indian Center for Cultural Relations to perform in New Delhi and Bombay in October, the JSO was flabbergasted when the Indian government notified it that due to the dispute over the status of Jerusalem, it could not sponsor the orchestra's concerts unless the name of the Israeli capital was dropped.

The notification was received after the JSO had finalized details of the tour with its Indian hosts, and had all but completed the arrangements.

"They told us that we were not welcome," JSO managing director Gideon Paz said.

Israel takes toll on olim

JERUSALEM — One-third of the immigrants who arrived from the former Soviet Union since 1989 and have been here for more than 2½ years are suffering from mental distress.

Their mental state has worsened the longer they have been in the country, according to a study released at a Jerusalem press conference called by the Zionist Forum.

Dr. Yigal Ginat, of the Talbieh Mental Health Centre in Jerusalem, said the research shows uncertainty about the future is affecting the immigrants, who said they had come here to provide a better future for their children.

* * *

Terrorists get life terms

JERUSALEM — The Jerusalem District Court has handed down three life imprisonment sentences each to four members of a Muslim fundamentalist terrorist gang operating out of eastern Jerusalem.

The four were found guilty of kidnapping and murdering border policeman Nissim Toledano last December. It was this murder that triggered the expulsion of 415 Palestinians to Lebanon late last year.

The four were also convicted of murdering two other policemen, Daniel Hazoot and Mordechai Yisrael, in Hadera.

They were also convicted of trying to run over soldiers at a bus stop and of attempting to murder a police officer near Rehovot.

The three-judge panel said in its ruling that it did not have the words to describe the cruelty and severity of the crimes.

* * *

Falash Mura arrives

TEL AVIV — Absorption Minister Yair Tsaban, MKs and senior government officials waited on the tarmac at Ben-Gurion Airport last week to greet the first group of Falash Mura to come here under the government's criteria for family reunification.

The 16 arrivals, part of a group of 129 humanitarian cases approved in conjunction with the Ethiopian authorities, disembarked from the plane slowly, apparently awed by the flashing cameras.

Most of the older members of the group, wearing flowing white robes, bent down to kiss the ground before shaking hands with the officials.

* * *

Church gets monk skeleton

JERUSALEM — The skeleton of a Byzantine monk, found fettered in iron chains, was presented by the Antiquities Authority to the Mar Elias Greek Orthodox Monastery on the southern outskirts of Jerusalem, adjacent to the excavations at which it was found.

The bones, displayed in a large glass case in the position in which they were found, were carried into the recently refurbished monastery church, where they are to remain on public view. According to Dr. Vassilios Tzaferis, director of Christian archeology for the authority, this is the first time that remains were found in this manner.

* * *

Housing boom planned

JERUSALEM — By next March, the Housing Ministry intends to release land for 49,000 homes in the centre of the country, where demand for housing is the highest.

This is the first step in Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer's plan to eliminate the housing shortage and reduce housing prices in the central region.

"I have a dream that every newly discharged soldier and every young couple and family can afford to buy a home of their own, register it in their name, and then get a government mortgage covering 80 percent to 90 percent of its cost," Ben-Eliezer said.

As an example of his goal, Ben-Eliezer said he hopes to bring the cost of a three-bedroom apartment in Rishon Lezion down to $70,000 from the current $120,000.

* * *

Canada agrees to Eilat passage plan

TEL AVIV — Canada has agreed to a plan among Gulf War allies that allows ships travelling to Eilat to avoid the U.S. naval blockade of Iraq.

Under the new procedure, Israel will give U.N. forces five days' notice for cargo ships passing through the Straits of Tiran. Those weighing over 8,000 tons will be permitted free passage to Eilat. Smaller ships must be inspected.

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Israel's the place to live economists' research finds

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — Is Israel a good place to live? The answer is yes, according to research published by Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce economists.

The economists arrived at that conclusion by looking at social factors instead of the usual focus on Gross National Product, income per capita, etc.

They compared life expectancy, fertility, calorie consumption per capita, child mortality rates, illiteracy rates and women's workforce participation rates to those of other countries.

According to these measures, Israel compared favorably with most countries, even with other Western nations.

Life expectancy is exactly 76 years, as in the United States, compared to the average expectancy of 76.4 years in the seven industrialized nations.

By comparison, Switzerland's and Sweden's life expectancy is 78 years, while Ireland's and Denmark's is 75 years, the CIS 72 years, Argentina and South Korea 71 years, Brazil 67 years and South Africa 62 years.

Israel's fertility rates are the highest among developed nations.

As of 1991, there were 2.8 births per woman compared to the average of 1.7 births in the seven industrialized nations.

Fertility rates stood at 1.9 births in the United States, 1.8 births in Great Britain, France and Finland, and 1.6 births in Japan and Belgium.

Women's participation lags

Women's participation rates in the workforce lag behind most countries. In 1991, women made up only 34 percent of the workforce compared to the average of 38.4 percent in the seven industrialized nations.

By contrast, women's participation reached 47 percent in Czechoslovakia, Finland and Romania, 41 percent in the U.S., 40 percent in France and Austria, 39 percent in Britain and Germany and 38 percent in Japan and Australia. Ireland and Italy had lower participation rates of 29 percent and 32 percent respectively.

Illiteracy stood at approximately four percent of the population aged 15 and over in 1991, which compares well with the industrialized seven's average of under five percent. By contrast, illiteracy stood at seven percent in Greece and former Yugoslavia and at five percent in Spain and Argentina.

Daily caloric intake per capita stood at 3,174 calories in 1989, higher than Britain's 3,149, Sweden's 2,960 and Japan's 2,956, but lower than Ireland's 3,778, the U.S.'s 3,671, Denmark's 3,628, Switzerland's 3,562 and Austria's 3,495.

The child mortality rate up to age five stood at 12 out of 1,000 births in 1991. This rate is higher than Japan's and Italy's six per 1,000, Britain's and Austria's 10 per 1,000 and the U.S.'s 11 per 1,000, but lower than Portugal's 15 per 1,000, Czechoslovakia's 14 per 1,000, Argentina's 34 per 1,000 and the CIS's 20 per 1,000.

U.S. Jewish community still the largest in world

JERUSALEM (JPFS) — America's 5.5 million Jews still constitute the largest Jewish community in the world, despite the recent wave of immigration to Israel from the former Soviet Union, according to a study just released by Israel's Information Center, affiliated with the Education Ministry.

American Jews constitute 43 percent of world Jewry and 60 percent of Diaspora Jewry, the study shows. The American Jewish community also has a number of unique social and demographic qualities that make it especially important:

— The community's general education level is exceptionally high.

More than half of American Jews under age 65 are college graduates, and some 85 percent of young Jews are in colleges and universities either as students, teachers, or researchers. Of 168 U.S. Nobel Prize winners, 51 have been Jews.

— Some 35 percent of American Jews earn more than $40,000 a year, compared to only 17 percent of the general U.S. population. Of America's 400 richest families, 40 percent are Jewish.

— Seventy percent of Jewish immigrants to the United States in the past century settled first in New York, and the majority of U.S. Jews continue to live in the northeastern United States, though there have been significant migrations westward and southward in recent years. New York's Jewish community remains the largest urban concentration of Jews in the world.

— Jews constitute five percent of voters, though they are only around 2.5 percent of the U.S. population. Jewish political awareness and activism is also evident in the make-up of Congress, where the percentage of Jews far exceeds their demographic strength.

"NACHAS"
BY MIRIAM LANAIL
IS THAT ALL YOU'RE HAVING?
I'M STUFFED.
TRY A SMALL PIECE OF CAKE.
I COULDN'T TAKE ANOTHER BITE..
DO YOU ALWAYS EAT SO LITTLE?
I TRY NOT TO PIG OUT...
...WHEN ANYONE'S WATCHING!
MIRIAM LANAIL ©93

Front Line

Operation Accountability reanimated peace process

By YESHAYAHU ANUG

Operation Acountability against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon was short, risky, cruel, controversial and arguably successful. It also shook the region's apathy enough to reanimate the simmering peace process. It lasted for seven days and nights and could well have entangled Israel in a repeat performance of the disastrous Lebanese adventure of 1982 — but did not.

It was cruel and controversial because it intentionally displaced hundreds of thousands of civilians from the targeted areas to destroy Hezbollah bases which had been sheltering there. It was openly designed to force the Lebanese government to either confront an untractable refugee problem in Beirut that could have brought about its downfall, or to mobilize the strength and courage to oppose Hezbollah with the active acquiescence of the Syrians, which up to then had allowed Iran to supply Hezbollah through Damascus. With the help of strong U.S. involvement, the Israeli plan worked and Hezbollah's activities were seriously curtailed by both Syria and Lebanon.

To achieve this result tripartite negotiations went on between Washington, Jerusalem and Damascus, the full details of which are still unknown even to Rabin's Cabinet colleagues. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher came to the area at the explicit invitation of Syrian President Hafez Assad; once there, Christopher used the breakthrough to give the bungled peace negotiations a new start.

During the seven tense days of the military operation Yitzak Rabin maintained and even escalated his military brinkmanship. It could have misfired and left him empty handed, or worse, embroiled once again in the Lebanese quagmire.

Everyone else played their parts. President Clinton resisted the groundswell of anti-Israeli criticism fueled by the televised misery of the Lebanon's new refugees and by the high number of civilians killed by the Israeli pounding. Some Syrian soldiers were killed by Israeli fire, but Assad did not intervene. And Prime Minister Harriri of Lebanon, till then actively engaged in rebuilding his war-ravaged country, saw his reconstruction work and his internal pacification efforts about to collapse but acted as expected by Israel's planners.

Yeshayahu Anug

What seemed to have contributed to the tripartite agreement was the opportunity to deliver a severe blow to the common danger of Islamic fundamentalist terrorism, now recognized worldwide as a legitimate target for unconventional prosecution.

The present great loser was Iran, whose continuous military support for Hezbollah via Damascus was momentarily stopped by the Syrians. During the fighting, Iran's foreign minister flew to Damascus to rescue Hezbollah, but to his dismay found Assad reluctant to listen and determined to play the American card.

Nothing is final anywhere in this troubled world and even less so in this sensitive area dominated by so many conflicting interests and shifting alliances. However, if the ceasefire holds, new perspectives will open for the parties engaged in the peace process.

From his point of view, President Assad of Syria scored some good points in Washington during Operation Accountability and expects to be rewarded for his co-operation. By inviting Christopher to Damascus he signalled that he meant business.

He knows that he holds the master key to the locked peace process with Israel and wants to explore how best he can use it to improve relations with the United States. His country is still high on the American list of terrorist regimes and suffers the uncomfortable consequences of this status in many ways.

He feels that the recent Israeli-Lebanese-Syrian entanglement and the terms of its temporary pacification offers a series of new options for a phased solution involving both the Golan and southern Lebanon as a possible package.

He knows that during the week of fighting, Israel's confidence in the merits of the "security zone" in southern Lebanon as a safe shield for northern Israel was shattered when an unprecedented number of Katyusha rockets rained on Northern Galilee even while Israeli forces pounded Hezbollah from the air, from the ground and from the sea.

Rabin, who has again demonstrated how hard he can be in fighting the enemy, has for a while disarmed the right-wing coalition critics who have accused him of softness as well as increased his popularity in the country. An astonishing 93 percent of Israelis expressed support for his military operation. He may now be better equipped to gain popular support for territorial concessions, should it come to that.

And finally, the Clinton administration, for which the initial result of its efforts represents a rare diplomatic success, may now be inclined to pursue the Mideast peace effort with greater vigor than before. Foreign policy is not Clinton's favorite theme but one that he must confront nonetheless.

While the unrelenting carnage in Bosnia remained unresolved, Christopher devoted many precious days to the Middle East. He will continue to do so if reasonably hopeful of success, but will recoil from pointless exposure if discouraged by the parties' behavior.

Given the present split in the Palestinian team — a number of negotiators boycotted the meetings with the Americans — and Arafat's declining authority in the PLO, very little was accomplished on the Palestinian-Israeli front during Christopher's visit. However, the visit clarified the American position sufficiently to force the Palestinian participants to rethink their untimely request to include the Jerusalem issue in the autonomy talks.

Israeli tactics will now probably be directed to seek progress where progress is possible. This is also likely to be the American strategy. Observers point at the Syrian-Israeli issue as the one most likely to offer the best chance of progress. However, one must bear in mind that both Assad and Rabin are very cautious and slow movers.

The direct peace negotiations will in all likelihood resume in September in Washington. They will now be preceded and perhaps accompanied by American shuttles to convey more meaningful messages between the Jerusalem and Arab capitals.

It is still unknown whether the Palestinian delegation will have resolved its internal paralysis by then. Christopher was very cautious when he summed up his week in the Middle East by saying he saved the peace process but could not report any major breakthrough. He may have understated his achievement.

On the face of it, the American rescue team left the peace process clinically alive, but still in the emergency room and in need of round-the-clock nursing.

Syria emerges a big winner from Lebanon barrage

By GIL SEDAN

Surprisingly, Syria has emerged as the big winner of "Operation Accountability," Israel's week-long barrage of targets in southern Lebanon.

Syrian gains in the confrontation between Israel and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah may well be registered in the history books as a rare phenomenon in that a third party made a political profit from a military conflict — without firing a shot.

Israel came out of the confrontation with a limited military advantage. No more Katyusha rockets will be fired at settlements in northern Israel, according to verbal assurances made between the countries.

But Hezbollah remains in the arena and is still loudly proclaiming its right to operate freely within the Israeli-controlled security zone along the border in southern Lebanon.

For an entire week, Syrian President Hafez Assad remained cool and aloof. When asked to intervene to stop the Hezbollah attacks, his aides insisted that they could do nothing to stop a "legitimate resistance against occupation."

But then the Americans turned up the pressure, and Assad changed course.

U.S. officials were concerned that Secretary of State Warren Christopher's planned visit to the region would be overshadowed by the shooting and the Lebanese refugee problem.

Damascus also came under pressure from Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri, the millionaire who had succeeded, with the help of Syrian bayonets, in stabilizing the shaky Lebanese political infrastructure.

The Lebanese premier warned Assad that the 270,000 refugees who had gathered around the Lebanese capital could endanger the stability of the government.

Syria, the political power that really calls the shots in Lebanon, did not want to lose the measure of stability it had achieved during the past three years at great effort.

More importantly, Syria realized that if the fighting continued, the entire peace process could go down the drain — a possibility Damascus wants to avoid.

Consequently, Syria took the necessary measures to signal Hezbollah that the Katyusha party was over.

Syria stopped the supply line between Teheran and Hezbollah headquarters in the Lebanese Bekaa Valley, and it gave the Lebanese army the green light to limit Hezbollah activities.

But the Lebanese army did little. It set up several roadblocks, preventing the free movement of Hezbollah fighters, and in some reported incidents, it prevented them from deploying Katyusha launchers.

Nonetheless, Hezbollah's leadership got the message so quickly that Damascus did need not even have to cut the flow of money from Teheran.

Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akhbar Velayati, rushed to Damascus to try to persuade the Syrians that the show should go on.

But for the first time in the delicate relations between Syria and its neighbor on the east, Assad said no. Too much was at stake. The American pressure was heavier; the stakes were too high.

Eventually, the Iranians, too, joined the deal — after the Syrians convinced them that there was more to gain from a cease fire.

Just the same, all the parties concerned reiterated via various channels Sunday that the ceasefire applies to northern Israel, but not the security zone in southern Lebanon.

Indeed, fewer than 24 hours after the ceasefire went into effect, a Hezbollah unit attacked a military post manned by the Israeli-supported South Lebanon Army.

During the same period, Assad said in a message to his soldiers that Washington should concentrate on putting an end to the Israeli "occupation" of Lebanon. He said Israel could not ask for security guarantees as long "as the occupation continues and it attacks civilians."

The secretary-general of the Hezbollah movement, Sheik Hassan Nassrallah, declared Sunday that "no one asked and no one would dare ask us to disarm ourselves."

Analysts here are sharing the view that Israel will pay the price for Syria's positive intervention. But it is not yet clear whether the price will be paid in Lebanon or on the Golan Heights.

Thank heaven tabloids didn't exist in ancient times

Do you find tabloids as off-putting as I do? You know which ones I mean: those weird, obnoxious things which are lined up along the checkout counters in your local supermarket, telling you how to LOSE 75 POUNDS IN JUST ONE WEEK, and which MOVIE STAR just ADOPTED QUADRUPLETS, and which mall Elvis was last seen in, and other narishkeit (to use the medical term).

Allan Gould

I don't know about you, but whenever I get home from shopping (yes, it is moi who does the shopping in our family, unlike me, my wife works), I have to take a long shower because I feel so dirty from having glanced at those hideous excuses for jounalism.

Well, this most unpleasant subject got me thinking. What if there had been a *National Perspirer*, or others of that stripe, back in biblical times? What would they have done to the often remarkable events recounted in our beloved Bible?

Well, here goes.

World Created In Only Six Days!
"I Won't Work Seven!" exclaims Holy One!

Snake Speaks!
Claims First Woman:
"The Devil Made Me Do It!"

Flood Covers Earth!
Ark-Builder Gets Drunk; Curses Son

Group Tries To Build Tower To Reach Heaven,
Communication Real Problem

Young Lad Guilty Of Destroying Father's Idols

Two Major Towns Get Wiped Out In Worst Disaster Since Flood
Insurance Companies Refuse To Pay:
Blame Act Of G-d

90-Year-Old Woman Gives Birth!
Actually Laughs At Her Strange Accomplishment!

Father Nearly Kills Own Son!
"We All Have To Make Sacrifices," he insists

Man Sells Birthright For Mess Of Pottage!
"Look, I Was Really Hungry," he explains

Jew Marries Wrong Sister; Vows To Work Seven Years For Right One!

Brother Sold Into Slavery!
Says Relative:
"His Lousy Dreams Ticked Us Off."

King Drowns First-Born Sons
"What Goes Around Comes Around," Jews Warn

Remarkable Burning Bush Remains Unconsumed

Bread Fails To Rise!
Entire Nation Reduced To Eating Prunes!

Miserable Weather Rocks Middle East!
Blood, Frogs, Lice
Weathermen Attacked On Street!

Ass Talks!
"Should Be In Politics," cynics suggest

Amalekites Slaughter Weak And Elderly!
"We Won't Forget This Behavior," Jews insist

Strange Food Falls From Sky!
Tastes Like Anything You Want!

Earth Opens Up, Swallows Man!
250 Others Die With Meiskeit Leader!

Man's Tongue Sticks To Roof Of Mouth!
"I Forgot The Name Of That City, Uh, You Know," he mumbles

Walls Tumble In Middle Eastern City Of Jericho!
Cheap Renovation Blamed

You get the idea. Just remember: shower after every visit to the supermarket. And be thankful that those tabloids weren't around back then.

(Toronto-based author and lecturer Allan Gould is the author of 18 books, including What Did They Think Of The Jews? and his latest, a major anthology of the best comedy of his chosen country, The Great Big Book of Canadian Humour, which he wishes sold as well as those idiotic supermarket tabloids.)

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Elul

The month of Elul has arrived. In synagogues around the world, during morning services every day until erev Rosh Hashanah (except on Shabbat), the shofar is sounded four times.

This practice originates in rabbinic custom to commemorate Moses' ascent up the mountain, on the first day of Elul, to receive the Law for the second time. As Moses climbed ever higher, the stormy blasts of the shofar resonated throughout the camp, focusing all eyes heavenward and calling the conscience to order.

As a recollection of the event, and in the hope that our own consciences will be thus stirred, the ancient rabbis decreed that in every generation the blasts of the shofar will again be heard in the month of Elul.

With the advent of Elul, the countdown to the new year has begun. It puts us on spiritual notice, as it were, that the time for serious reflection and self-assessment has arrived. As individuals, we look into our hearts; as a community, we examine our priorities. Neither exercise is necessarily comforting yet both are essential.

Overall, especially in the larger centres, the Jewish community in Canada pulsates with diverse and vibrant life. Jewish institutions offer an impressive array of life-cycle services to their constituents: family and child services, senior care services, vocational services, recreational, cultural, social and health services, immigration services and, of course, the twin anchors of synagogues and schools.

The chief priority for our leaders, in whichever community they reside, is to ensure that this pulse and heartbeat of Jewish life in Canada never weakens. But the times in which we live makes fulfilment of that priority more difficult.

Whether it is in depression or merely in recession, the industrial economy in which most of us have grown up is changing permanently underfoot. The process of that change, still on-going, is causing deep dislocations and severe hardships. In some cases, it is wreaking emotional and financial havoc on businesses, families and whole communities. Ironically, it means that there are fewer funds now available to support the increasing need for those all-important services.

Thus, as Elul begins and we are reminded to look into our own hearts, we cannot avoid asking how we too, as individuals, can help to protect that precious pulse of Jewish life. The trembling call of the shofar is uniquely suited, as Maimonides said, to awaken us to examine our actions.

After the guns

Whether Israel's recent attack against the Hezbollah in Lebanon will erase further katyusha assaults on northern Israel or create (as *Newsweek* magazine has suggested) a new generation of anti-Israel fanatics in Lebanon cannot be answered definitively.

What does appear crystal-clear, however, is the role of Syria's Hafez-el-Assad in helping to persuade the Hezbollah to cease its rocket attacks against Israel's security zone in Lebanon and against northern Israel proper.

His persuasive influence was decisive because without Syria's acquiescence, the Hezbollah cannot import arms into Lebanon nor can it organize the hit and run tactics it employs to fire off salvoes of rockets into Israel.

The Syrian dictator, in the past one of Israel's most truculent foes, has given evidence in recent years of a change of tactics, if not ideology. Still an implacable enemy of Israel, Assad has been induced to cosmetize some of the rhetoric he has used in his discourse on Israel and the Middle East.

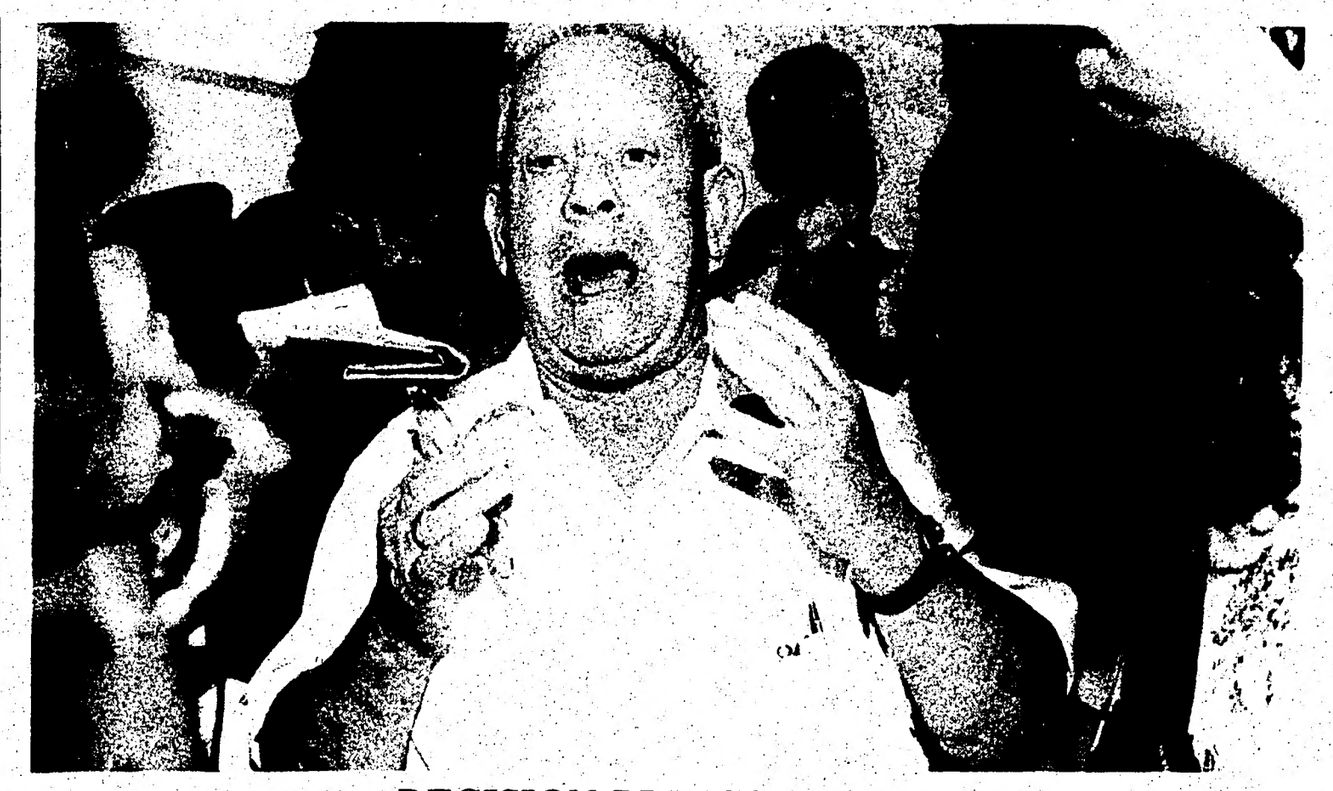
There are two major reasons to explain Assad's shift: a devastating heart attack which introduced him to intimations of mortality a few years ago occasioned a slight mellowing of his world view. Second, the collapse of his staunchest ally (and major arms supplier) the Soviet Union, reinforced his feelings of vulnerability and isolation.

These factors along with the Gulf War, have caused Assad, the same man who ridiculed Anwar Sadat for concluding a peace treaty with Israel, to begin to speak, however tentatively, of the possibility of full peace for full withdrawal (from the Golan Heights) with Israel.

Assad has not, of course, defined what he means by full peace and it is unlikely that he would alienate the Palestinians by signing a treaty with Israel which did not regulate the status of the territories.

The recent Israeli action in Lebanon was a message to its interlocutors in the off and on again peace talks that Jerusalem will never compromise the security of its citizens.

The peace talks must continue — but not at the expense of Israeli life in the north of the country — or anywhere in the Land of Israel.



DECISION BRINGS SHOCK

Treblinka survivor Yosef Czarney, who was a key witness in the Demjanjuk case expresses his shock at the Supreme Court's decision to acquit Demjanjuk. [IPPA photo]

Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

MISQUOTED ON RABBIS

As the co-ordinator of the Jewish Hospice Program, I would like to thank Ron Csillag for his article of July 29, and I'd like to express my appreciation for his making the community aware of our exciting new program. I would like however to comment on a few things.

The article conveyed the correct impression that working with dying people is extremely gratifying. However, the statement that "volunteers won't always be sitting next to a dying person," is a statement that I never made. In fact, my feeling is that being with a dying person can be a life-affirming experience. Dying people are as involved with the living as they are with dying. Experienced palliative care volunteers have expressed to me that working with the dying can be joyous and peaceful as well as sad. This echoes my own experience.

In addition I was misquoted on saying, "I feel that dying people must come to terms with their lot." What I tried to convey in the interview was that the stage of dying, like other life stages, can be an occasion for emotional growth. Often dying can be a time when people heal personally and within the context of their families. An example of this is a family that I am currently working with where the dying father has embraced the son he rejected for many years.

Lastly, I must correct a misquotation concerning pulpit rabbis. I was quoted as saying "Pulpit rabbis may be asked to brush up on their Chaplaincy skills." I did not say that pulpit rabbis need improvement in this area. I have neither the experience nor the knowledge to make a judgement.

Sheila Walker, MSW
Co-ordinator
Jewish Hospice Program
Toronto

* * *

A CHMIELNIK FAMILY

I am trying to find my brothers and sisters.

I was born Chancia Zajd in Chmielnik in 1919. My parents were Sara and David Zajd. My mother's maiden name was Cieslewitz. My father died three months after they were married and three years later my mother remarried Moshek Roter. From this marriage there were seven children, all born in Chmielnik: Abram, Kalman, Israel, Ruchla, Sender, Shmuel and Blima.

I came to England in March 1939. The last time I heard anything from Poland was in 1942.

Chancia Beaver
12 Parksway
Prestwich, Manchester
M25 8JE, England
Tel: 061-773-1067

* * *

A CHESTOCHOWA FAMILY

My family is searching for Avraham-Abraham Charney (Czarna, Charna), parents Leah and David, brother Getzel.

Last known address was Warsaw Street in Chestochowa, Poland, around 1942.

Annette Renschowicz
953 East 79 Street
Brooklyn, New York
11236 U.S.A.
(718) 531-5789.

* * *

AN OSTROG FAMILY

I am searching for a relative named Aron Sheftel, who was supposed to have lived in Toronto during the 1950s to 1990s.

He was born in Ostrog, Vohlyn, Russia in the early 1900s, and is related to the Sheftel, Lerner, Mutchnik and Nathenson families. My mother was Hinde Lerner.

Judy Friedman
4321 W. Grove
Skokie, Illinois
60076 U.S.A.

* * *

OTHER COMPLAINTS

Re: Praise for Dr. Fenigstein*CJN* June 24. Making a charge at the College of Physicians and Surgeons is not lightly undertaken. The proceedings are lengthy and arduous; the complainant endured these, and public disclosure, so that something positive might result.

At least three agencies, not to mention individual physicians and therapists, have heard complaints about Fenigstein over the years. One, the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, has also, since the hearing, had six complaints; some specifically about Fenigstein and some about other doctors. The complainant has, to some extent, already achieved her goal — to help survivors of therapist abuse to begin to deal with the long-lasting humiliation, shame and guilt engendered by trust twisted into sexual compliance.

Edith Pike
Toronto

* * *

HIS OWN MISCONDUCT

The College of Physicians and Surgeons conducts public hearings of complaints against its members only after long and careful investigation to ensure that the care received by all patients meets the highest professional standards and that doctors are not subjected to frivolous claims.

Dr. H. Fenigstein's licence to practise medicine was revoked by a panel of his peers who listened not only to the lawyer representing the victim of his abuse, but also to his own able counsel. He admitted his guilt because he was guilty, not because "he had no strength left to defend himself" suggested by your correspondent Pauline Feder-Rooz on June 24. His name was not "besmirched" by his patient but as a consequence of his own misconduct.

Patricia D. Kirby, B.Sc., M.Ed.
Toronto

* * *

GUILTY NOT ILL

In response to the letter headed Praise for Dr. Fenigstein by Pauline Feder-Rooz, June 24.

The charges against Dr. Henryk Fenigstein were laid January, 1992 — approximately nineteen months before the formal disciplinary hearing at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. He pleaded guilty to professional misconduct and incompetence at that time. He did this because he was guilty, not because he was too ill to fight. The College was apprised of six first party witnesses and three second and third party witnesses. Because he chose to plead guilty, their testimony was not used and he was able to avoid being named a multiple abuser.

It is true that many people feel that they were helped by him. He was a very powerful presence and while he used that power appropriately to help some, he abused that power with others — the latter being women who trusted him with their vulnerability only to be violated and left with a legacy of pain and devastation.

The complainant is a woman of courage and principle. She wanted this brought to public attention to help other women who may have suffered abuse at his hands. She wanted them to know that they are not alone, that they did nothing wrong and hopefully they can begin the long process of healing.

Riva Horowitz
Toronto

Opinion

Sachar helped develop Hillel into national institution

By RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

Our paths did not cross often, but they did once when I was at a crossroads of my life. The man who had a potentially decisive influence on the direction of my career and who made a huge impact on North American Jewish life died a few weeks ago. He was Abram Leon Sachar.

He was born in New York to an immigrant family. They moved to St. Louis, where his grandfather officiated as the chief Orthodox rabbi. Abe, as he was known to his friends, opted for academe and in time was appointed to the faculty of the University of Illinois in Champaign. Here he taught history and created the first two pillars that bespoke new concepts in Jewish life.

A small Jewish students' group had been founded at the university in 1923, and Sachar took great interest in its development. In 1929 he took full responsibility for it and, with his charisma fueled by the conviction that Jewish students needed a Jewish address when away from home, made the one small Hillel Foundation into a nationally significant institution. Under the umbrella of B'nai Brith it became a landmark on North American campuses, and from 1933 to 1948 Sachar was its director. Seeding the all too often arid landscape of Jewish Diaspora existence became the great challenge of his life. The college campus became his battle ground.

At this point my own memory obtrudes. It was the summer of 1940 or 1941, when my wife and I were vacationing in Charlevoix, a resort town in the northern part of Michigan. We came to know a number of leading figures in Jewish life, and Sachar was amongst them. I was then an assistant rabbi in Chicago, serving my first congregation, but for a variety of reasons I was not very happy and was thinking of making a change. So, when Sachar asked me one day how things were going with me, I told him what was on my mind.

Rabbi Plaut

"How would you like to work for Hillel?" he asked me. "You'll have the intellectual challenge you want and an academic environment in which to work. Incidentally, how much do you earn in your job?"

I told him. It was very little and we were just scraping by.

"Well," he said, "that's one thing you won't have to worry about any more. I'll double your present salary."

That sounded very good indeed.

"And where would you send me?"

"I have an opening at the University of Texas, in Austin. You'd be serving part time for Hillel and part time for the local congregation. Austin, you know, is the capital of the state and you'll meet lots of interesting people. So, what do you say?"

My wife and I discussed the offer and were inclined to accept it.

"Let me go back to Chicago and speak to my senior rabbi. I'll phone you next week."

We shook hands. Abe Sachar was a persuasive man.

But when we returned home the proposition seemed less attractive every passing day. I was a newcomer to the United States and, though I had once been briefly in Texas, had come away with one impression: it was far away from the centres of Jewish life (trains and cars being the chief means of locomotion then), and Austin seemed like the last outpost of Jewish civilization. If I ever wanted to change from there, how would I go about it? I had no network of significant acquaintances and would be entirely dependent on Abe Sachar. Much as I liked and admired him, that seemed like a daunting prospect.

My wife saw it the same way, and so we deciced that I had to call the Great Man and tell him that, after all, we would stay in Chicago for the time being. "Maybe later," I added lamely. He was gracious about it and said he understood.

It would be some years before our roads crossed again. It was in the 1950s and we had moved to St. Paul, Minnesota. He came to the city to do some fundraising — but not for Hillel. He was now in another arena. He had founded Brandeis University, in Waltham, Mass., and had become its first president.

For Sachar, Brandeis U. was the concrete expression of his dream: to make Jewish culture a visible and enduring part of the American landscape. He started it with 107 students and 13 faculty members — a crew of daring people who shared his dream. Today the university has 3,700 students and 360 teachers, and has earned the enviable reputation of being a top echelon institution. Best of all, it has a strong Jewish studies department, and over the years some of our brightest lights have gone there to teach. Brandeis has tough standards, and being a graduate or professor of the school is the kind of recommendation bested by few other universities. Brandeis is a major reason why Jewish Studies are today found in some 200 schools of learning in North America.

While Hillel has lately fallen on difficult days, Brandeis has flourished. In addition to the books Sachar wrote (amongst them a most readable one-volume Jewish history), Brandeis is his magnificent monument.

He was 94-years-old when he died in Newton, Mass. All Jews are in his debt, but not Jews alone.

Prime Minister Rabin faces real dilemma in Deri affair

By DAVID BAR-ILAN

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's dilemma in the Deri affair is real enough. When he formed his coalition government, Rabin solemnly promised in writing that Interior Minister Aryeh Deri — then under criminal investigation — could stay in the government until his parliamentary immunity was removed and an indictment against him presented in court. He made this promise with Attorney General Yosef Harish's blessing and unequivocal approval.

But now that Harish has signed an indictment charging Deri with serious crimes of malfeasance, the attorney general's office and Harish himself deem Deri's continued presence in the cabinet anathema to good government. In what Rabin views as an about-face, Harish has now recommended that Deri suspend himself even before his immunity can be removed. Miffed by this seeming inconsistency, Rabin has rashly — and totally unnecessarily — cast aspersions on the performance of the attorney general's office.

Rabin must now decide whether to stick to his promise or follow Harish's recommendation. But it is not only his highly commendable commitment to a solemn obligation which bedevils Rabin. A government crisis at this point, he fears, may derail the peace process, whose recent momentum has been sagging anyway.

True, arithmetically the government can survive without Deri's Shas party. But Rabin is not only honest enough to refuse to go back on his word; he is acutely aware of the difficulty in making fateful decisions about the country's future with only 61 of the 120 Knesset members voting with him on major issues. He must also know that decisions made possible only by the votes of the anti-Zionist Arab parties will have great difficulty commanding popular support.

What is a little puzzling in this affair is the centrality of Deri's role. There is no reason Shas should bolt the government because its leader and only minister is forced to suspend himself or resign. Under normal circumstances, another member would have replaced him. But Deri, it seems is the party. And Shas MKs will agree to vote with the government only as long as he serves as a cabinet minister.

Rabin may not be disingenuous when he says his first obligation is to his word, not to current legal opinion. But as prime minister he must realize that public perceptions cannot be ignored. His continuing support of Deri's refusal to vacate his seat can only be perceived as the flouting of the country's legal norms for the sake of preserving the coalition and staying in power. Following last month's shameful vote by most Labor MKs against removing Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Raphael Pinhast's immunity, such support undermines public trust in the government.

Rabin must know, too, that the future of the negotiations and the prospects of peace depend to a great extent on national confidence in his honesty and integrity. Anything which may shake this confidence — and his clinging to Deri most certainly will — is a blow to the peace process.

— JPFS

Israeli court decision does not vindicate Demjanjuk

By NATHAN LEWIN

When the Supreme Court decided to set John Demjanjuk free, it expected that its decision, having been made on such limited grounds, would result in his being exiled to Ukraine to live out his life in obscurity.

But the court miscalculated. It naively believed that the world would bother to read its scholarly opinion and understand the basis of its judgment. And, of more practical importance, it had too much faith in the rationality and fairness of American courts.

A lavishly financed public relations campaign in the United States has been at work on Demjanjuk's behalf for several years. Pat Buchanan, an erstwhile Republican presidential contender, is the most prominent spokesman for this deplorably successful drive to portray Demjanjuk as a wronged victim of Jewish vengeance. The Supreme Court judgment has been exploited by Buchanan and his crew as the ultimate proof of their credo.

Those who bothered to read the Supreme Court's judgment know that "vindication" or "acquittal" does not fairly describe its conclusions.

But American public opinion ignores these subtleties.

And a U.S. federal appeals court sitting in Cincinnati has been obsessed, for the past year and a half, with the notion - created and nurtured by the pro-Demjanjuk publicity drive - that the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations perpetrated a "fraud on the court" when it failed, in 1980, to give Demjanjuk's lawyers a document obtained by them from Soviet files.

The critical document quoted a Treblinka guard named Pavel Leleko, who was executed for war crimes in Ukraine. Leleko identified the Treblinka gas-chamber "motorists" as "Marchenko and Nikolay." Demjanjuk's lawyers now claim that the Justice Department deliberately suppressed this document because, by negative inference, it showed that Demjanjuk was not one of the two gas-chamber "motorists." And since "Ivan the Terrible" was a gas-chamber "motorist," it proved that Demjanjuk was not Ivan.

Lawyers for the U.S. government had diligently replied to four sets of interrogatories served by Demjanjuk's lawyers during the 1980-1982 proceedings to revoke Demjanjuk's citizenship. In 16 sets of answers they listed the names, addresses and other relevant information concerning 73 potential witnesses who could either help or harm their case. They told the defence repeatedly that some investigatory documents had been retrieved by Justice Department lawyers from the Soviet Union. Rather than asking to see the documents, Demjanjuk's lawyers complained that they already had "hundreds of pages" to "sift through," and they wanted only written statements made by Soviets whom the government intended to call as witnesses.

Now, more than 10 years later, Demjanjuk's team claims that the failure to produce the Leleko excerpt (which never mentioned Demjanjuk or "Ivan the Terrible") was a deliberate concealment of evidence that invalidates the entire denaturalization proceeding.

In a remarkable order issued on August 3, 10 minutes after they finished hearing oral presentations from the Justice Department and from Demjanjuk's lawyers, three federal appeals judges directed the Attorney General to bring Demjanjuk back to the United States. They said that the Israeli Supreme Court's decision found Demjanjuk not guilty "as he has consistently proclaimed." They also asserted that "a serious threat exists to the life of John Demjanjuk in Israel" and that his testimony might be needed in the United States to determine "whether a fraud has been perpetrated on this court."

Finally, out of pity for this "stateless and homeless" man, the judges said that he should be returned to America because of "basic humanitarian considerations."

As a lawyer who has litigated constitutional issues in American courts for more than 30 years and is proud of the American legal system, I wish I could predict comfortably that this grotesque ruling will be quickly vacated by the Supreme Court.

It is a totally lawless order, for a host of reasons.

But reaction in the United States has fallen far short of the outrage that the ruling deserves. *The New York Times* declared that bringing Demjanjuk to the United States is "the only effective way to restore order and honor." And the *Washington Post* asserts that the Israeli Supreme Court's "acquittal" lends support to the "steadily more disturbing allegations concerning possible misconduct by Justice Department prosecutors."

More ominous even than the respectable editorial comment is the silence from the Clinton administration. The Justice Department should have announced immediately that it would seek a prompt stay of this order either from the full Court of Appeals or from the Supreme Court.

Instead, we are told that the case is being studied, and that the Solicitor General, who is in charge of government appeals and of Supreme Court business for the administration, will make a decision in due course.

That makes the Israeli response all the more critical. If Israel now releases Demjanjuk and allows him to fly off to Ukraine, he will shortly have a travel document that will enable him to return to the United States for a hero's welcome. Israel has solid legal grounds to continue to keep him in custody and to initiate new criminal proceedings against him, either based on new evidence of his conduct at Sobibor or for his activities as a run-of-the-mill guard at Treblinka.

Demjanjuk's lawyers, and the U.S. federal appeals court, properly contend that to put Demjanjuk to trial on any such charges would violate a legal principle of extradition law known as the "doctrine of speciality." An accused who is extradited to face charge A may not be tried, once he arrives at the requesting country, on charge B.

That rule plainly does not apply if the evidence concerning the second offense first comes to light after the accused is extradited to stand trial on the first charge. Nor should it apply to prevent a trial on a more modest criminal charge if the accused is found not guilty of the more heinous charge for which he was extradited.

It frequently happens in the United States that a person arrested on a criminal charge is discovered, in the course of a prosecutor's preparation for that trial, to have committed other offenses for which he has never been charged. Even if acquitted on the first charge, the accused is kept in custody to answer the other allegations made against him.

And what becomes of the "doctrine of speciality?" That doctrine is part of Israeli law (Section 24 of the 1954 Extradition Law) and appears in Section 13 of the Extradition Treaty between the United States and Israel. It has an explicit exception for any case in which the "foreign state consents in writing." In other words, Israel may make a formal request to the United States for authorization to try Demjanjuk on some lesser charge than being "Ivan the Terrible." And if the State Department agrees - and for this no court approval is necessary - the trial may proceed.

Other procedural avenues might also be pursued, including even a new extradition request to an American court - while Demjanjuk is retained in custody in Israel. But so long as the American courts continue to misunderstand the Israeli Supreme Court's ruling and invite Demjanjuk back to a hero's welcome, Israel would surely be condemned by the judgment of history if it released him. --JPFS

(Nathan Lewin, a Washington attorney, has taught constutional law at Harvard and Georgetown law schools.)

Features

Hitler's *Mein Kampf* in Hebrew

Reporting from Tel Aviv, Sheldon Kirshner interviews the translator of the Hebrew edition of Mein Kampf, published in Israel last summer.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Why should anyone want a Hebrew version of Hitler's *Mein Kampf?* Why should Hitler's hate-dripping, turgid diatribe be translated into the holy tongue of a people he sought to exterminate? Why indeed?

Dan Yaron, the translator of *Mein Kampf,* wrestled with these gut-wrenching questions when he considered the possibility of becoming involved in the translation project.

"I thought, 'Maybe it's an absurd idea.' " Unsure, Yaron, whose parents perished in World War II, canvassed the opinion of Israeli politicians, historians and Holocaust survivors. "Eighty percent were for it," said Yaron, a Viennese-born Jew who immigrated to Palestine in the late 1930s.

They convinced him that a Hebrew-language edition of *Mein Kampf (My Struggle)* — which Hitler wrote while in a Bavarian prison in 1923 and 1924 after a failed coup attempt — would be of historic value.

Moshe Zimmermann, a professor of German history at the Hebrew University who wrote the foreward, was particularly instrumental in encouraging Yaron to undertake the job.

"From a literary point of view, *Mein Kampf* isn't worth the paper it's printed on," explained Yaron. "Let's face it. It's garbage. But circumstances turned it into an historic document, whether we like it or not. This is a fact. *Mein Kampf* is the source, the fount, of German Nazism. It is self-explanatory.

"Just because our enemies read it is no reason we shouldn't be familiar with its contents. Maybe it's only for self-protection that we should know what they read. These things exist, and it's best that we not turn a blind eye to them or blind our children's eyes to this venom. It's better for them to know.

"The younger generation should know what really happened and why. You have to know who your enemy is and what he is."

In Israel, the Holocaust is a mandatory subject of study. Yet young Israelis are not as sufficiently acquainted with the rise of Nazism and the Holocaust as they should be, and *Mein Kampf* is strictly off-limits, Yaron observed.

"And I confess that my own daughter, who's a lieutenant-colonel in the Israeli army, does not know enough either," he added.

"We simply haven't given enough attention in our schools to modern European history and, of course, people don't want to talk about it."

Yaron, 74, began translating *Mein Kampf* in 1984, shortly after he retired as secretary of Tel Aviv's department of education, culture and youth.

It was no easy task.

"It was very hard translating Hitler's old-fashioned, convoluted German into Hebrew," said Yaron, who admits he had not read *Mein Kampf* prior to that. "I had to write it from his point of view, through his personality. He was not stupid, absolutely not. He knew how to influence the German people, how to exploit the difficult situation which prevailed after World War I. He knew how to use anti-Semitism to further his own ends."

The Hebrew edition, an annotated book of 130 pages with a stark black-and-white cover, contains no photographs of Hitler and, in keeping with good taste, is not emblazoned with a swastika.

Composed of excerpts chosen by Zimmermann to highlight Hitler's racial views and his critique of the Weimar Republic, it is about one-fifth the length of the original.

Israeli edition composed of excerpts chosen by professor

More than a dozen publishers rejected the manuscript before it was published by Akadamon, a specialist in academic texts. It's intended for history students, not the general public, and this explains why only 400 copies were printed.

"It's for people who are interested in learning about National Socialism in a course of study," said Zimmermann.

Further excerpts will be published later this summer or in the autumn.

Some Israelis were outraged by its appearance. "But they are in a minority," said Yaron. "Neo-Nazism in Germany has given more actuality to my book."

To Yaron, Hitler is more than a malevolent figure. He is a real person. In March 1938, when Hitler's motorcade swept through Vienna after Germany's annexation of Austria, Yaron caught a glimpse of the dictator as he sat in his armor-plated Mercedes.

The sight not only intensified Yaron's sense of Jewishness, but kindled his desire to leave Austria. Several weeks later, Yaron — a member of a Zionist youth group — boarded a train in Vienna bound for Greece. There, he made his way to Palestine illegally. Arrving by boat off the coast of Binyamina on May 27, 1938, Yaron swam to shore.

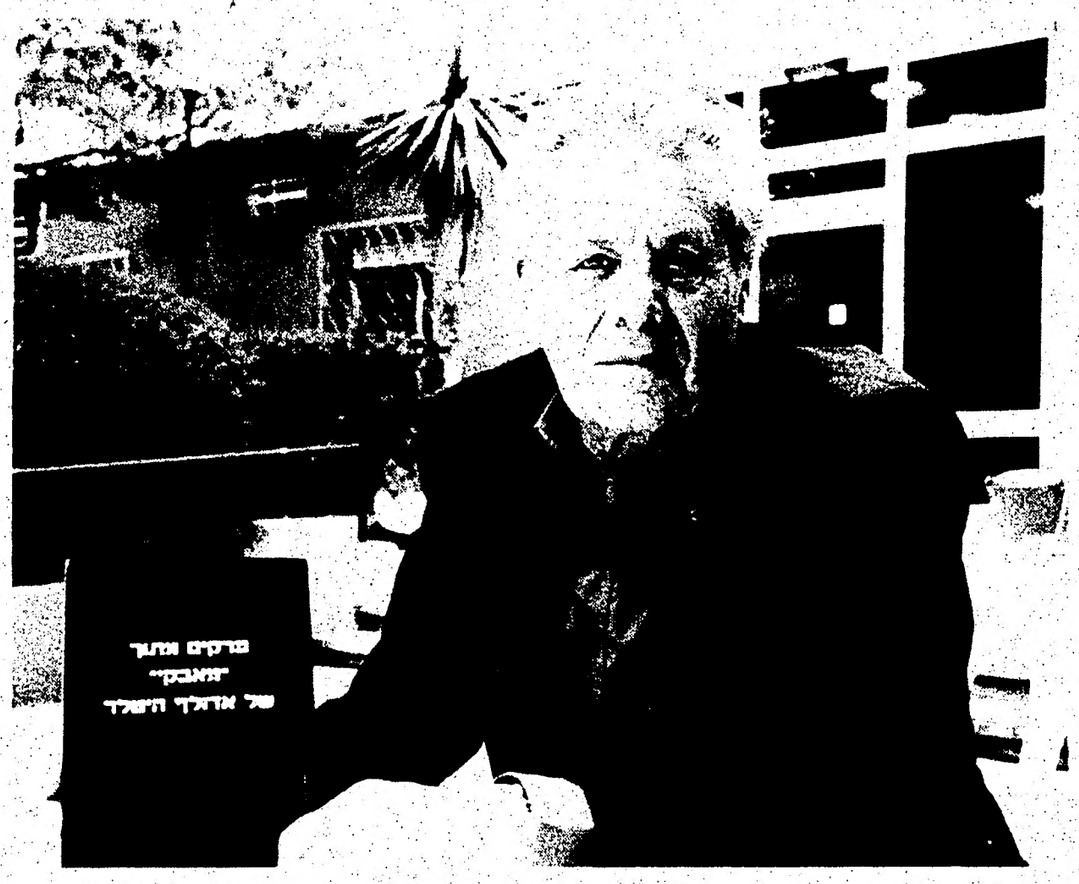
His late brother, Bruno, reached the United States in 1940. His parents were not as fortunate. They were picked up by the Germans in Romania and then dispatched to a concentration camp.

Soon after his arrival in Palestine, Yaron joined the Haganah, the fighting force of the Yishuv, and served with the legendary British soldier, Orde Charles Wingate, who is best known for his command of the Special Night Squad.

"Wingate identified himself completely and actively with the Jewish cause," Yaron said. "He was a very good Zionist, probably the first British officer to express openly his opposition to British policy in Palestine."

Wingate, Yaron noted, was embraced by the Haganah leadership and become a close personal friend of Chaim Weizmann, David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett and others in the Zionist leadership.

Armed with a pistol, a flask of whisky and a Bible, Wingate was one of the most unforgettable characters Yaron ever knew. "He was not an easy man to have as a commanding officer. He was a strict disciplinarian, expecting from his men everything he demanded of himself. But he was a legend in his own time."



Dan Yaron with a Hebrew edition of Hitler's *Mein Kampf.* [Sheldon Kirshner photo]

The Jewish World

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

A year ago today, racial disturbances erupted in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, when a 7-year-old black boy, Gavin Cato, was accidentally killed by a car driven by an official of the Lubavitcher movement. Several hours later, a gang of young black men, lusting for revenge and chanting "get the Jew," stabbed to death an innocent bystander, Yankel Rosenbaum, a 29-year-old-student of Chassidism from Australia. This was followed by three nights of rioting by blacks.

The repercussions of that event, called America's first pogrom by Lubavitcher spokesmen, have yet to subside:

•Last month, a New York state report, commissioned by Gov. Mario Cuomo and overseen by the state's director of criminal justice, Richard Girgenti, painted a scathing portrait of ineptitude on the part of police and politicians in responding to the riot. Cuomo ordered the report after a mostly black and Latino jury acquitted Lemrick Nelson, the chief suspect in the murder of Rosenbaum, last October.

•The federal attorney-general, Janet Reno, is trying to ascertain whether Rosenbaum's civil rights were violated. Since Nelson's acquittal, which was widely condemned as a miscarriage of justice by Jewish groups, new witnesses in Rosenbaum's murder have come forward.

•The Chassidic community of Crown Heights has launched a lawsuit against New York City.

•Benjamin Hooks, the former executive-director of the NAACP, the black civil rights group, has warned that a concerted Jewish campaign against the black mayor of New York, David Dinkins, could turn an essentially local affair into a new crisis for the black and Jewish communities on a national level.

Jesse Jackson, the black leader, has been trying to keep a lid on tensions. But in an emotionally scarred neighborhood like Crown Heights, where blacks outnumber Jews by about 3 to 1 and where mutual misconceptions are prevalent, this may be asking for too much.

Long before the 1991 riots, Jews and blacks in Crown Heights, whose lives and customs are so radically different, had not been getting along.

Crown Heights repercussions have yet to subside

Even after that there were incidents, the most notable of which occurred in December 1992, when Ralph Nimmons, a black indigent, was beaten by Chassidim after he broke into a yeshiva.

Dinkins, who received widespread support from Jewish voters when he was elected in 1989 by a narrow margin, is considered a friend of Israel and sympathetic to Jewish causes.

But to Chassidim in Crown Heights, who feel threatened by their neighbors, Dinkins is a figure of revulsion, harshly criticized for his leadership during the riots.

Up for re-election in November, Dinkins has said he is not responsible for the lax manner in which the police reacted to the disturbances. Girgenti is critical of the former police commissioner, Lee Brown, for having failed to suppress the riots and preserve public peace. But he takes Dinkins to task for not having appreciated the gravity of the violence.

Dinkins, whose popularity among Jewish voters remains fairly steady in spite of what happened, has been reaching out to the Jewish community in an effort to fend off challenges from his mayoral opponent, Rudolph Giuliani.

Last November, he announced a plan to quell racial animosities. It includes provisions for classroom lessons to stop bigotry and a program of cultural exchanges between Jews and blacks. In December, he met with Lubavitcher representatives and other Orthodox Jews. But no substantive agreement was reached, and the Chassidim expressed dissatisfied with the results of the meeting.

On July 5, two weeks before Girgenti released his report, Dinkins paid his second visit to Israel in as many years. Declaring his intention to "build bridges" of racial harmony in New York, Dinkins promised there would "never again" be a repetition of the 1991 "circumstances."

The mayors of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem endorsed him for re-election. But in Crown Heights, the bitterness runs deep.

Immigrants turn to prostitution

By ANNE ZETO KAYE

Most new arrivals in Israel from the former Soviet Union struggle to find a job through the conventional channels. Some women, however, are turning to prostitution to provide money to support themselves and their families.

The phenomenon of immigrants working as prostitutes is not a new one. According to Prof. Giora Rahaf of Tel Aviv University, "whenever a large group of olim came to the state, a new generation of prostitutes was on the streets."

Prof. Menachem Amir of the Hebrew University's Institute of Criminology adds, "In 1948-1949, there were Polish and Romanian hookers, and then they were pushed out" by prostitutes from North African countries in the late 1950s. "Once these groups become established in the society, they leave the market as they are not professionals."

However, what makes the case of the Soviet olim particularly acute now is that the combination of low wages and high costs for basics such as rent is creating a situation where women are working as prostitutes with their husbands' knowledge and consent.

In a recent interview with Yaron London on Israel Television, Tanya, a Russian immigrant here seven months, discussed her decision to work as a prostitute for an escort service. "The benefits we received from the government weren't enough," she told London. "My husband found a menial job as a dishwasher that didn't pay much. We got to a point where the money was totally finished — going to the supermarket with my daughter and not having money to buy anything."

Her husband came home with an ad for the VIP escort service and suggested she work for them. At first she thought her husband's suggestion was crazy and scnadalous. "But, I had two options: stay home without money and food for my family or ignore my self-respect as a woman and work in the escort service."

Ella Zuberi, an official of the national Na'amat women's organization, points out that there are ads in the Russian press which invite beautiful girls aged 20-35 to work as "hostesses" or in an "interesting" job. Attracted by the promise of good money, many women answer these ads without knowing that prostitution is involved.

Numerous such ads have appeared in the Russian-language press in the past year, corresponding to the enormous wave of Soviet immigration. When Zuberi called the numbers listed in the ads, she found Soviet immigrants, native Israelis and English and Spanish speakers answering the phone.

Absorption centres have not been immune from olim prostitution. A number of immigrant families at the Sapir Absorption Centre in Kfar Saba have requested transfers to other facilities, claiming that some Soviet olim are using the facilities as a centre for prostitution.

The number of Soviet immigrants working as street prostitutes is having an economic effect — it is depressing the market prices. Amir explains that "they do it for nothing. These Russian prostitutes receive NIS 20 when the regular price is NIS 100. This money is for jeans and to support the family . . . In the north, there are lines of Arab customers because they are so cheap."

As for how the law views prostitution and whether there is a lot of police harassment, it becomes obvious that a state of laissez-faire exists. According to Haifa police spokesman Dvora Rotman, "The police intervene only if it receives complaints from residents or business owners who find the women plying their trade near the premises." *(JPFS)*

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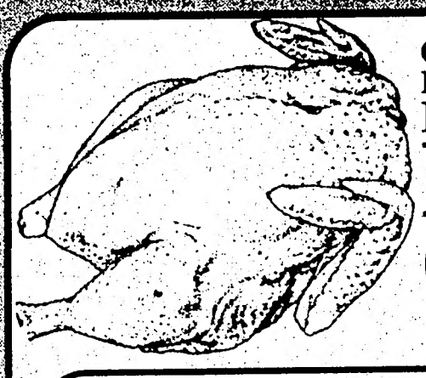

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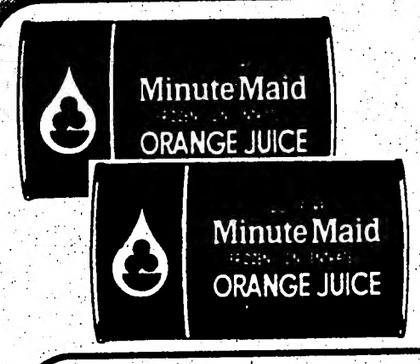

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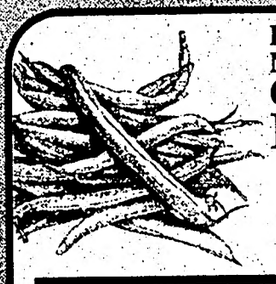

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Ottawa leaders condemn monument vandals

By MIRIAM SOBEL

OTTAWA — Ten years ago, politicians and a proud public gathered to dedicate a quiet suburban park to the memory of World War II hero Raoul Wallenberg. Last week they were back to remember Wallenberg's 81st birthday and to condemn vandals who painted swastikas on his monument a week earlier.

Swastikas were painted on playground equipment, the walls of the neighboring high school, and the six-foot white sculpture dedicated to Wallenberg.

"Swastikas remind us of a time many European Jews vividly remember, and we came to Canada to try to forget the atrocities," Andrew Fodor — a man whose life was saved by Wallenberg, told the crowd in an emotional speech.

"We thought we left anti-Semitism behind, but we are being reminded of it by these vicious acts."

Working as a Swedish diplomat in Budapest, Wallenberg saved more than 100,000 Jews by issuing Swedish passports and papers to keep them off the transports to the death camps.

In December 1944, Fodor, a Hungarian Jew, was hiding with 200 others in a safe house that was part of the Swedish Embassy. They were discovered by the Hungarian Arrow Cross, the equivalent of the Nazi SS, and taken to a police barracks to be executed.

Fodor remembers Wallenberg arriving in his green cap and grey overcoat. Pounding his fist on a desk, he insisted that the prisoners were Swedish citizens and demanded their release. The group was freed and returned to the embassy. Three weeks later they were liberated by the Russians.

"If Raoul Wallenberg were alive today," Fodor went on, his voice cracking and his eyes filling with tears, "he would leave no stone unturned, so that there would be no repetition of uncivilized behavior."

Wallenberg is thought to have died in a Russian prison camp at the end of the war.

About 200 people, including local and federal politicians, anti-racist groups, the Jewish War Veterans of Canada and the local community, gathered to honor the Swedish diplomat. They brought wreaths and baskets of flowers to honor a man they said was the epitome of selfless heroism.

Ten-year-old Tara Sheehan, whose house backs onto the park, was so offended by the racist graffiti that she wrote a letter to the editors of two local newspapers.

"It was just this kind of bigotry that Raoul Wallenberg fought so hard against," said her father, Harold, before turning with Tara to lay a basket of flowers by the sculpture.

If there was one lesson to take away from the incident, said Ron Singer, chair of the community relations committee of the Jewish Community Council, it was that no one can afford to be complacent about racism.

"Even in a quiet community such as this, hatred exists."

Correction

A July 29 *CJN* story on Miriam Schneid-Ofseyer, a survivor of the Hebron pogrom, stated that the attack on the town's Jews took place in 1936. In fact, the pogrom in Hebron happened in 1929.

UJA honoring longtime donors

TORONTO — Longtime supporters of the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) will be honored in a unique donor recognition program beginning this month.

Under the Golden Giver Program, UJA donors of 25 years or more will receive a certificate and lapel-pin thanking them for their contribution. The amount donated is unimportant.

"We don't care if a Golden Giver has given $50 or $50,000 every year for the last 25 years," said program chair David C. Green. "It's their committment to tzedakah we're celebrating."

Research by the UJA's endowment and archives departments will eventually identify the hundreds of men and women who have contributed to UJA campaigns, anywhere in the world, consistently for the past quarter century, but the community can help too. A comprehensive mailing will be sent out asking the receivers to help identify a Golden Giver.

The Golden Giver program began three years ago in South Broward, Fla., when Federation officials became aware that longtime donors wanted to share their experiences and years of commitment to tzedakah with others.

To that end, the UJA mailing also invites people to write about those experiences which affected them Jewishly. The responses will be included in the Golden Giver archives, while their names will be entered on a Golden Giver Wall in the Lipa Green Building.

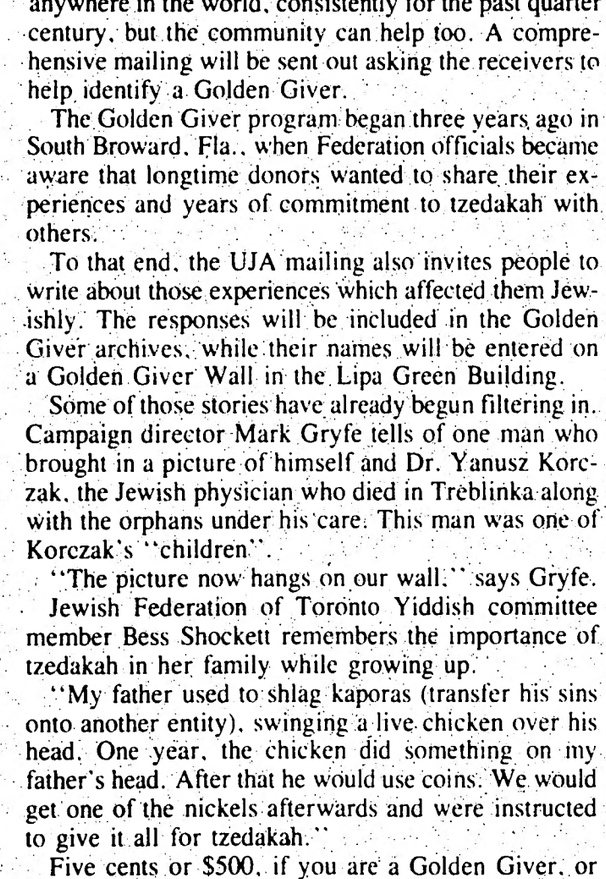
Some of those stories have already begun filtering in. Campaign director Mark Gryfe tells of one man who brought in a picture of himself and Dr. Yanusz Korczak, the Jewish physician who died in Treblinka along with the orphans under his care. This man was one of Korczak's "children".

"The picture now hangs on our wall," says Gryfe.

Jewish Federation of Toronto Yiddish committee member Bess Shockett remembers the importance of tzedakah in her family while growing up.

"My father used to shlag kaporas (transfer his sins onto another entity), swinging a live chicken over his head. One year, the chicken did something on my father's head. After that he would use coins. We would get one of the nickels afterwards and were instructed to give it all for tzedakah."

Five cents or $500, if you are a Golden Giver, or know one, please contact Avrum Rosensweig at 631-5733.



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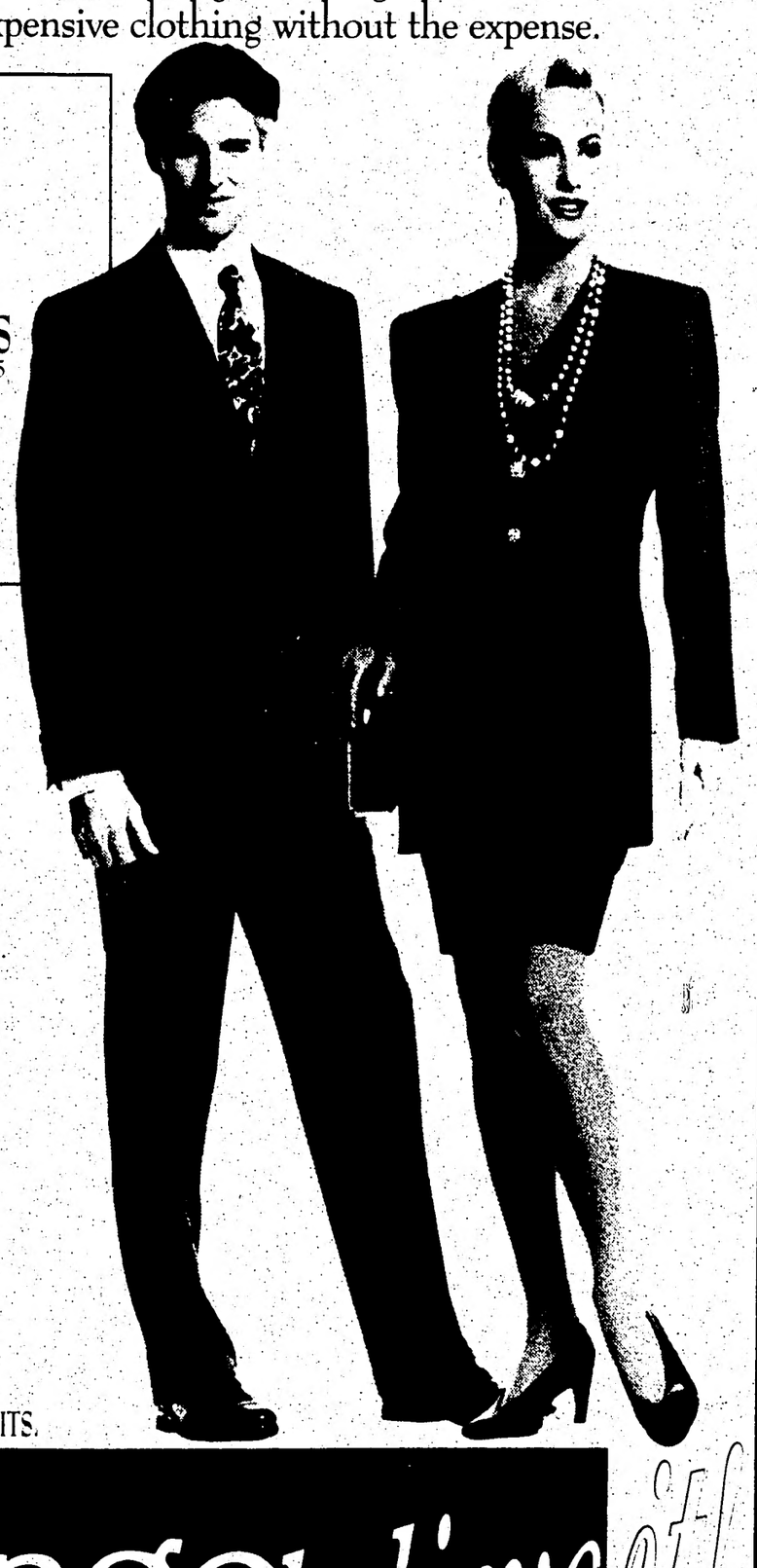

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Organizations and People

Mouse cloning to help treat diseases

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — To a non-scientist, it has the distinct feel of science fiction: Microscopic cells taken from 2½-day-old mouse embryos are being used to clone mice so that scientists can better understand and develop more effective treatments for genetic diseases in humans.

Until about 10 years ago, the sophisticated technology now used for cloning mice *was* science fiction, but today it's an important part of the research being undertaken at Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute.

Earlier this summer genetics researcher Andras Nagy of the Lunenfeld Institute spent two weeks at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot teaching aspects of the technique in what is being called a prelude to an exchange program between the two institutions.

"We try to create animal models for certain diseases," explained Nagy recently at his Toronto lab. "For example, cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease. [Now that we know which gene causes it — a discovery made at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children], the next step is to identify and clone the same gene in the mouse. When we know what went wrong in that gene, we try to create the same alteration of that gene in the mouse." No longer do scientists have to wait for naturally occuring mutations before they can study them, notes Nagy.

"Of course, we really don't want just to create a sick mouse, and we are really careful to make sure they don't suffer unnecessarily.

"If you have an animal model, though, you are able to test different treatments which could speed up the research for effective treatment [for humans]. Mice are very similar to humans, genetically."

At Weizmann, Nagy shared his expertise in creating an animal from a genetically altered cell with his Israeli colleagues. Mount Sinai Hospital, with which Nagy has been affiliated since he left his native Hungary in 1989, was one of the first institutions in the world to try the technology and was also responsible for developing certain aspects of it, he said.

Mount Sinai Hospital has received 75 requests from as far away as Australia for its "cell line" (embryonic cells), which it ships carefully packed in dry ice. The Weizmann Institute uses Mount Sinai's cell line, said Nagy.

Andras Nagy in his lab at Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute. [Suzyn Hewitt photo]

The technology can be used "from immunology to cancer research," said Nagy. Knowledge gleaned about one disease can be useful in developing treatments for other diseases, he noted. "Everything is really connected. It's a very powerful tool for understanding the different mechanisms and systems playing a role in immunology, cancer and neurobiology."

'Synagogue' gets delisted

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — Tele-Direct [Publications] Inc., an arm of Bell Canada, has withdrawn a house of worship from its listing of synagogues in the upcoming North York Yellow Pages.

The move came after a complaint was registered by Canadian Jewish Congress, which asserted that Congregation Melech Yisrael is not a synagogue and should not be listed as such.

Bernie Farber told *The CJN* that he contacted Tele-Direct about four months ago, explaining to representatives of the Bell subsidiary that Congregation Melech Yisrael is really "a Christian house of worship."

Tele-Direct accepted Farber's contention, and in a letter faxed to Congress last week, communications director J.J. Sweeney wrote that "Congregation Melech Yisrael will not appear under the heading 'synagogues' in the upcoming North York Yellow Pages publication."

For the past several years, Melech Yisrael has been listed in the Yellow Pages as a synagogue as a ploy to bring Jews into its fold, Farber said.

But, "you can't call yourself a plumber if you're not a plumber," he said.

"I hope this is a lesson for those missionary groups that target our community and that they learn full well that we are not easy prey," Farber added.

Baruch Goldstein, head of the 100-member Congregation Melech Yisrael, said he will not fight the decision to remove the congregation from the synagogue listings. In the future, the institution will appear under the heading, "messianic congregations," he said.

Goldstein accused Farber of being on a witch-hunt against messianic Jews and asserted that Jews who believe that Jesus is the messiah are experiencing discrimination and harassment from the Jewish community. "Who is Bernie Farber," Goldstein asked. "Pope of the Jews?"

Goldstein acknowledged that "we are not a synagogue in the traditional sense. We are a messianic synagogue."

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Organizations and People

Yiddish comes alive in Toronto courses

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — A woman who "reclaimed" her Yiddish culture is anxious to share her enthusiasm for the language in the only high school credit course for Yiddish in Metro Toronto.

Sheine Mankovsky, who learned Yiddish at home and at the Peretz Shule in Winnipeg, is a second generation Holocaust survivor. The three-hour, 30-week credit course she gives on Tuesday evenings begins in September at Earl Haig Secondary School, located a short walk from the North York Civic Centre subway stop, at 100 Princess Ave. It is free and open to adults and high school students.

It is more structured than the numerous conversational Yiddish classes given at several synagogues in North York, but Mankovsky believes that the homework, examinations and extra effort are worth it because it enables one to reclaim Yiddish culture from original sources.

Seven adults, two women and five men, most of them immigrants who finished the course last May, shared that belief. They included a physician, five teachers and one Sephardic Jew from Morocco. Three of them were Holocaust survivors, and all had a Yiddish background. "Knowing the Hebrew alphabet is helpful for a transition to Yiddish," said Mankovsky.

"We expect a big enrolment in the Yiddish classes this year," said Sylvia Lustgarten, co-ordinator of the committee for Yiddish, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

Response to the Earl Haig credit course was so good last year that Mankovsky and Lustgarten are hoping there will be enough students for two classes, beginner and advanced.

For the first time, Yiddish conversational classes will be available in Toronto at Jarvis Collegiate with the co-operation of the Toronto Board of Education. This should be a boon for those who live in the downtown area.

Mankovsky's background is typical of the committee's Yiddish teachers. Her mother, Rena Goldstein, originally from Lodz, lives in Toronto, and her father, the late Chaim Goldstein, was from Tiotrkon-trybunalfka, Poland. The family moved to Toronto when Mankovsky was 10. The Metro Toronto race relations officer's children, Brenda, 12, Tsipora, 11, and Lydia, 9, attend Bialik where Yiddish is taught.

Other Yiddish teachers include Nathan Garnick, a Yiddish thespian, Ben Clodman, a retired pharmacist and teller of marvellous Jewish jokes, and Richard Bassett, former president of Friends of Yiddish, a staunch advocate for the language.

The North York Board of Education is offering evening classes at Beth David, Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda, Shaarei Shomayim and Temple Sinai Synagogues and Bialik Hebrew Day Schools. There is also a daytime class for beginners and advanced students at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Monday mornings. These classes are free for seniors. For others, the charge is $5 a night.

The Children's Heritage Education Classes in Yiddish will again be held on Sunday mornings from 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. at Associated Hebrew Day Schools, Finch at Bathurst. These are free and open to anyone from Grade 4 to high school level.

Three Yiddish credit courses are being taught at the University of Toronto. They are Beginner Yiddish, Intermediate Yiddish and Yiddish Literature in Translation.

For information on any of the classes call Sylvia Lustgarten, 635-2883, ext 155.

Yiddish foundation renamed

JERUSALEM —The Foundation for the Advancement of Yiddish Studies, which sponsors the teaching of Yiddish in Israel's schools, the Yiddish teacher training courses at Tel Aviv University and the recently established Yiddish Teachers' Seminary in Moscow, will be renamed the Ben A. Himel Foundation, according to a joint statement issued by Professor Gershon Winer of Jerusalem and Rabbi Milton Arm of Detroit, chairmen of the Israel and American boards of this agency.

Himel, of Toronto, was the first to propose and support the instruction of Yiddish in the Israeli elementary schools by establishing an endowment at Bar-Ilan University and a parallel fund with the foundation. To date, 54 schools in Israel, both religious and secular, offer Yiddish courses, one half of these schools in the elementary system.

To solve the problem of a shortage of qualified Yiddish teachers, the foundation was responsible for initiating Yiddish Teachers' courses in the School of Education at Tel Aviv University. The students are certified Hebrew teachers with elementary Yiddish knowledge, interested in teaching Yiddish. Over 50 teachers attended these courses at Tel Aviv University this past year.

A few months ago, at the Knesset's "Yiddish Day," former education minister, Shulamith Aloni, delivered a positive and appreciative address on the value of Yiddish in Israel education and society. As a result, an anonymous contributor presented a $3 million gift for Yiddish under the supervision of the ministry.

Ben Himel

At a meeting of the American board of the foundation, which took place in Miami in March, a proposal was made to rename the foundation in honor of Himel. This was adopted unanimously at a meeting in Jerusalem in tribute to Ben Himel's pioneering role in introducing and popularizing the teaching of Yiddish particularly in Israeli elementary education.

Russian seniors gain freedom

TORONTO —A story in *The CJN* (April 15) helped convince Russian authorities to let his aged and ailing parents emigrate to Israel, according to Vladimir Sviatkovsky of Toronto.

Sviatkovsky's parents, Leonid, 69, and Alexandra, 70, are leaving Ryazan, a military-industrial city 200 kilometres north of Moscow, to go to Israel to join their only daughter, Irinia, in Israel.

Sviatkovsky said he had been unable to sleep at night worrying about the lack of medical attention for his father, who has had three prostate operations, and his mother, who suffers from a thyroid gland condition.

The parents' request to emigrate had been turned down 10 times because Leonid Sviatkovsky worked at a military plant. A bureaucrat at the plant once told him: "I want you to die here."

The CJN article was sent to human rights organizations around the world, according to Genya Intrator of Beth Tzedec Synagogue, whose members also wrote to the Russian ministers of defence and internal affairs on behalf of the Sviatkovsky family. — **B.R.**

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Organizations and People

SUCCESSFUL TEEN DANCE

Organizers of a recent BBYO/United Jewish Appeal Teen Dance celebrate their success. The proceeds raised in conjunction with the UJA Walk for Israel will be used to help teenagers and children who have arrived in Israel from Ethiopia, Yugoslavia and the former Soviet Union without their parents. Pictured are (from left) Michael Rotstein, Toronto area council AZA vice-president; Jodi Isenberg, Chapter Alhambra BBG vice-president; Keren Goldberg, Toronto area council BBG president; and Joel Marans, Lake Ontario Region, regional AZA president. [Graphic photo]

Gesher Centre officially opens

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — An official ceremony took place recently in Jerusalem to mark the opening of the Gesher Educational Center-Milken Family Campus in Jerusalem.

Gesher was founded to bridge the gap between religious and secular communities in Israel. The new Gesher home is located two blocks from the King David Hotel and is a 40,000 square foot facility that will provide Gesher with an extensive retreat complex.

Set on an historic site where, in 1860 settlers built the first homes outside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem, the new centre required the securing and preservation of these original structures as part of the final educational complex. "We worked to renovate, rebuild and expand all at once," said the construction supervisor, Marcel Lasowsky. "A typical problem we had to deal with was preserving old, picturesque walls while adapting them to a modern air-conditioning system."

Rabbi Daniel Tropper, the founder and director of the Gesher Foundation, visited Toronto not long ago and held several discussion meetings with members and friends of the Canada Israel Gesher Foundation. He noted that "Gesher emphasizes the interdependence of all Jews, regardless of background — promoting respect for, and tolerance of, diversity and strengthening each person's commitment to common Jewish values and traditions."

The Gesher Center is close to both downtown and the Old City — the double heartbeats of Jerusalem, says Rabbi Tropper. "The center's style reflects the prediction of Rav Kook — Hayashan yitchadash, hachadash yitkadesh — revering the old, revering the new."

He added that "We are not merely entering a new and magnificent physical home, but also standing at the threshold of a new era of expansion in many areas: education, the arts, music and culture. Our aim, which is to achieve unity through the appreciation and understanding of diversity, can now be much more easily realized.

"In light of the growing extremism in the modern world in general and in Israel in particular, Gesher represents a call for moderation. We appeal to people through educational programs to appreciate the complexity of issues and not look for simple solutions."

Until now, Gesher's creative seminars and extensive study programs have taken place in their Safed Campus and in rented quarters throughout Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The new retreat complex consists of 39 dormitory rooms, lecture halls, seminar rooms, a synagogue, a full kitchen, a large dining hall, and offices that will enable all administrative functions and educational departments to be centralized.

This year, notes Rabbi Tropper, more than 6,000 youngsters participated in Gesher seminars of three to four days each. Some sessions are for religious and secular together, some for religious alone. This, he explains, is to address the specific needs of these populations. There are also seminars for Russian olim together with Israelis geared to social and cultural integration.

SINGLES EVENTS

*Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

A fantasy cruise under the stars '93. Don't miss the summer bash of the year. Saturday, September 4. 7pm-11pm. Call Ted or Howard, 663-6446 or Baroque Nightclub, 665-4600.

Be part of the fun. Meet, mingle and mix with **The Single Set** (50 plus) who bowl Monday nights and party whenever possible. Next get-together is a barbeque Sunday, August 29 at 4:00pm. For details call 764-9160.

Marcia Levine and Jeff Perlmutar present a **Singles Tennis Roundrobin and Dance** on Sunday August 29 at 7015 Leslie St. Tennis reservations a must. Call Marcia, 889-0813.

Metro Toronto Singles Presents: Meet Me At The Beach, The Party Where You May Get Lucky!!! Lottery tickets for the first 100 people. **Sunday, August 29**. 8:00pm. At **"The Baha Beach Club"**, 277 Front Street West (at John St., at the foot of the CN Tower). Door prizes: Complimentary dinner for two at Baha, $50 gift certificate from Sporting Life. Dress Code: Beach or casual attire. Cover $10. For more information call 222-7111.

Parti Partee! Brought to you by **The Party Club. Thursday September 2, 1993, 7:30pm** at **The Betty Ford (Dance Club)** 240 King Street East. Cover $10.00. **A donation will be made to The Israel Cancer Research Fund** For more info call Danny Cohen, 482-9614.

Singles (49 plus) are looking for bowlers of either gender to join their 10-pin bowling league on Tuesdays, 9:00pm, at Glencairn/Bathurst. 2 games. Please call Evelyn, 635-7884. No talen necessary, just the talent to enjoy a fun evening in good company.

Toronto's Orthodox Singles present Labour Day Weekend (Sept 3-6) in Washington D.C., featuring The Holocaust Museum. For more info call Sharon Ganz, 785-0761, Ruth Balofsky, 764-5833, or Marshall Deltoff, 783-4914.

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Organizations and People

CJA campaign kicks off

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — This year, Winnipeg's Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA) is kicking off its 1993 fund raising campaign on Sept. 1 with an evening featuring American political strategist Mark Talisman and comedian David Brenner. The format however will be different from last year when Yakov Smirnov was the star attraction.

"It was a wonderful evening last year," says Sam Guralnick, a CJA vice-chair. "We received a lot of great publicity across Canada among other CJA organizations. The problem was that the focus was on the show, not the CJA and the message we wanted to get across. Because we had the dinner elsewhere and people could buy tickets for the show alone, we had to rush the dinner guests and the majority of the people missed what we were trying to get across."

The goal of the exercise, which was tried for the first time last year, was to raise the CJA's profile in the community, show the Jewish public how their donations to the CJA are spent and make people feel good about giving. "We are trying to get across how important and worthwhile it is to give," Guralnick says. "The better people understand what we do, the easier it is for our canvassers. Our canvassers shouldn't have to sell the CJA over the phone."

This year's evening at the Western Hotel will be all-inclusive. As Guralnick notes, comedian Brenner is the sizzle that will bring people out, but those who come will have to come for the dinner and other speaker, too. Supper will be served at 7 p.m. followed by a new 20-minute video, prepared by Lank-Beach Productions Ltd., at 8 p.m. outlining the work of the CJA and its beneficiaries.

"We want to emphasize the important contributions a lot of our beneficiary agencies make to the Jewish community," syas Guralnick. "These agencies are often taken for granted until they are needed. Without CJA support, they might not be there. You don't know what you have until you lose it. The problem is that too many people in the Jewish community assume someone else will pick up the tab. There used to be a lot of strong, Jewish-owned businesses here, but a lot of our major donors have sold out, passed on or moved away."

Talisman will speak after the video is screened. Talisman is active with the CJA in Washington, D.C. and will discuss the funding problems common to most North American Jewish communities. "Our problems aren't unique to Winnipeg," Guralnick notes.

According to Guralnick, the CJA is hoping to attract 400-500 Winnipeggers to the event. The evening is well timed. It falls 10 days before Super Sunday.

JCC lottery planned

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON — Dinner for two anywhere in the world, return flight and one night's hotel accommodation included. . .

It could be yours for a mere $100!

Only 1,000 tickets will be sold for the Magic Carpet Dream Dinner lottery, which makes the odds for winning pretty good.

It's the latest Hamilton-Wentworth and area JCC fundraiser and anyone over 18, with the exception JCC employees and their families, is eligible to buy a ticket.

The project is being co-chaired by Dr. Janet Weisz-Asa and Lowell Richter. Lottery licence number is M 118384.

Proceeds from the lottery will go towards JCC programming and equipment purchase. The draw will be held Thursday, Sept. 9, 1993 and tickets can be purchased by calling (416) 528-8577.

The prize consists of two return tickets to any destination where a major air carrier flies, one night accommodation worth up to $500 and one dinner for two worth up to $500.

And yes, you really can select any destination you fancy, be it Israel, Thailand, even New Zealand, says Weisz-Asa.

However, if you want to go to the Treetops Lodge in Kenya, "we'll fly you to Kenya, but you'll have to pay for the elephant ride yourself," she says.

Other conditions include travelling via the most direct route and returning from the same location. Flights will be out of Toronto or Montreal. The tickets will be purchased by the JCC at the lowest available price. Seats can be upgraded at the prize winner's expense.

The trip must take place before Sept. 9, 1994, and 60 days' notice must be given before the chosen flight date.

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Engaged: November, 1992
Wedding: June, 1993

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Moshe and Dan Ronen
officiating
York University, 4700 Keele St.
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Students $35, Adults $100, Seniors $45,
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Organizations and People

What's New

By
MIRIAM HERMAN

DEADLINE REMINDER

The deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, Aug. 19, is deadline for Sept. 2, and Thursday, Aug. 26, is deadline for Sept. 9 issue. I am at my desk on Thursdays only to receive your calls and sort my mail. The phone number is 422-2331.

Friday, Aug. 20

HAPPY MUSICAL HOUR

Concert pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** will appear in a happy musical hour, 2-3 p.m., at Cheltenham Nursing Home, 5935 Bathurst St. Her program will include a wide selection of semi-classical, popular, Jewish and dancing music.

Sunday, Aug. 22

THE VENTURI BRASS

The Venturi Brass (**Curits Dietz**, trumpet; **Gina Patterson**, French horn; **Rob Tilley**, trombone; **Peter Collins**, bass trombone) will present a free concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave. (south of Queen, east of Woodbine). For further information, call 694-7942.

FLYING BULGAR KLEZMER BAND

The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, with mandolins, violins, accordians, clarinets, horns and trumpets creating a wild and spirited version of klezmer music, will perform 7:30-9 p.m. at Mel Lastman Square, 5100 Yonge St. Admission is free. For information, call Square Line, 395-7350.

BAZAAR AND GARAGE SALE

Be sure to drop in at the annual bazaar and garage sale at Kehillat Shaarei Torah, 2640 Bayview Ave. (corner Bayview and Fifeshire) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You'll find bargains galore in the huge selection of gently used clothing, books, records, household articles and more.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

SPECIAL WOMEN'S LECTURE

Ohr Somayach Thornhill is hosting a special women's lecture in anticipation of the High Holy Days. This address, entitled A Place Within: A Feminine Approach To Self-Evaluation And Spritual Growth For The High Holy Days, will be delivered by **Rena Schocchet**, director of the Women's Studies Program of Ohr Somayach, at 8:30 p.m. at Ohr Somayach, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. It is open to the public and there is no admission charge. For further information, call the Ohr Somayach Program Line, 886-5732.

A VISIT TO THE ROM

The Holy Blossom Temple Lunch and Learn in Retirement Group will be visiting the Royal Ontario Museum to view the City of David exhibit. The day is free for seniors. Meet at the ROM at 2 p.m. Following the exhibit, tea will be available. For further information, call **Deborah** at 789-3291.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League of North Bathurst presents There's a New Baby in Your Life, a discussion of childbirth options, getting breastfeeding started, and the family's relationship to the breastfed baby. Meetings are open to pregnant or nursing mothers. The time is 8 p.m. at 222 Winding Lane, Thornhill. For further information, phone **Joyce**, 881-8779, or **Robin**, 886-8364, or **Karen**, 512-7974, or **Risa**, 738-8870.

Thursday, Aug. 26

SNOWBIRDS HEALTH INSURANCE

Lifestyle Retirement Communities is hosting a lecture by **Kieth Segal**, chartered life underwriter, on Snowbirds Health Insurance Options While Travelling Outside Canada at 2 p.m. at Forest Hill Place, 645 Castlefield Ave. Admission is free but seating is limited. To reserve, call **Marlene White**, 445-7555.

SUNNYBROOK OPEN HOUSE FOR KIDS

Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, 2075 Bayview Ave., invites children to have fun at the many displays and activities at Kidsummer, the annual open house for children aged 5-10. All are invited to explore the world of hospitals and discover the exciting secrets of the human body. The time is 1 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the auditorium. This is free and no pre-registration is required. For more information, call 480-4040.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

Prof. Zehev Tadmor (right) awarding Jerry Friedman (left) an Honorary Fellowship of the Technion for his leadership role in the Canadian Technion Society. Friedman is currently chairing the Society's fundraising campaign for a National Israeli Electron Microscopy Centre to be established at the Technion. Henry Taub, Technion board of governors chair, looks on.

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And What Else Is New...

KABBALAH LEARNING CENTRE

Here's a list of upcoming events sponsored by the Kabbalah Learning Centre, 678 Sheppard Ave. W. Phone number is 631-9395—

The Power of Kabbalah, a documentary explaining the mysteries behind life, death, good, evil, success, failure, every Sunday. Admission is free.

Melava malka, an entertaining evening with refreshments, Saturday, Aug. 21, 9:30 p.m. Call for exact location.

Kabbalah Summer Camp, Aug. 23-Sept. 3. Please register.

Rosh Hashanah with Kabbalist **Rabbi Philip Berg** and **Karen Berg**, Sept. 15-18 at Radisson Hotel, New Jersey. Call for details.

Yom Kippur with complete Kabbalistic explanations, Sept. 24 and 25 at Montecassino Place Hotel. Call for details.

Sukkot Sept. 29-30 and Simchat Torah/Shemini Atzeret Oct. 6 and 7 at the centre.

LEAH POSLUNS THEATRE SCHOOL

Leah Posluns Theatre School offers the very best in theatre training. Register now for the fall 1993 introductory to advanced classes for children, teens and adults. Classes include Creative Drama for Children; Novice Acting and Acting for Film and TV for Teens and Young Adults; Acting Techniques, Scene Study and Backstage Workshops for Adults; and a six-subject Performance Certificate Program accredited by Seneca College. Classes begin September. Call 636-1880, ext. 287/298.

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

Baycrest Terrace Reform Congregation is conducting High Holy Day services in the air-conditioned, wheelchair accessible Assembly Hall. Tickets are $30 per person. Phone **Victor Szold**, 782-3796.

M.E. CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME

Jewish Family & Child Service announces that a group will begin in October for adults suffering from M.E. Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. For more information, call **Marsha Berniker** at JF &CS, 638-7800, ext. 257.

VOLUNTEER PUPPETEERS

The Kids on the Block, a troupe of life-sized hand operated puppets (disabled and non-disabled) designed specifically to teach children about disabilities such as epilepsy, spina bifida, diabetes and arthritis, performs in Metro Toronto elementary schools. Volunteers are needed to help keep up with all the performance requests. Complete training is provided and no experience is necessary. If you have a free morning or afternoon per week during the school year, call the Epilepsy Association, Kids on the Block co-ordinator at 964-9095.

MAN OF THE YEAR

Toronto businessman Sydney Cooper (right) was named Man of the Year at the annual meeting of the Men's Service Group (MSG) of Baycrest Centre. Active at Baycrest for many years, he is a member of the board of governors, the board of directors of the Baycrest Foundation, and is also helping to plan Baycrest's next fundraising campaign. Making the presentation is Ted Waldman, MSG president. [BDS Studios photo]

LADIES 10-PIN BOWLING LEAGUE

A ladies 10-pin bowling league is looking for bowlers for Wednesday evenings at Playtime (Dufferin and Lawrence). For more information, call **Charlene Garten**, 221-9328.

FANTASY CRUISE

Fantasy Cruise Under the Stars '93, sponsored by Sunlife of Canada and Baroque, sails on Northern Spirit Saturday, Sept. 4, from Queen's Quay terminal 7 p.m. Tickets are $30 in advance, $40 at departure, and include dinner, dancing and lots of great prizes. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse. Call **Howard Kamin** or **Ted Berlad** at 665-4600.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

The North York Public Health Department offers several programs conducted by public health nurses. Included are Living with Children, free sessions for parents of children 0-12 months and for parents of children 1-4 years (call 395-7600 to register), also a six-week series on Menopause (call 395-7780 to register).

DINNER DANCE

An added note about the Court Ahavas Achem dinner dance taking place Sunday, Sept. 12, at the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. The charge for non-members is $30 per person. Call **Eva**, 636-8323.

FLOWER DESIGNS

Hachnasas Kalla creates beautiful silk centrepieces for your special simcha. This group of volunteers raises money to help needy Jewish brides and the Flower Design project has been a smashing success. When you purchase a centrepieces piece (prices range from $5 to $35) not only do you perform a mitzvah, but you get a tax deductible receipt as well. For details, call **Cecile Kaplan**, 633-5913, or **Robin Werner**, 783-4690, or **Debby Sturm**, 638-9564.

Another Hachnasas Kalla project is Share a Gift. If you have any glasses, vases, trays, bowls, pottery and such tucked away in your cupboards that you are not using, there are many new brides would be delighted to make use of them. Call **Chaya Frieda Unger**, 781-9971. Can you imagine a mitzvah and extra storage space too?

for seniors

Volunteers are needed for a new service for seniors in North York that will be run by seniors. Volunteers for **Seniors Peer Counselling Service** will help seniors deal with the loss of family, loneliness, elder abuse, aging and other issues of concern to seniors. Volunteers will work from the North York Seniors Centre (Yonge and Finch area). This innovative service was initiated by **Mayor Mel Lastman**. Call **Bev. McClelland**, 395-7780, by Sept. 1.

Do you want to shed extra pounds before the start of fall? If you are 55 years of age and over, this is for you! Learn how to lose weight and keep it off at **60 and Holding**, an eight-week nutrition and weight reduction program run by a registered professional dietician at the **Wagman**

[Cont'd. on page 25]

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

Centre. The next session begins Wednesday, Sept. 8, 10-11:30 a.m. For information, call 787-5131, ext. 2267.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Aug. 25, the Israeli movie, *Hill 24 Does Not Answer* will be shown. This is a drama of the 1948 War of Independence. For information, call 782-9432 or 635-5604.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club happenings— the opening luncheon, Monday, Aug. 23, 12:30 p.m. with entertainment by singer **Lenka Lichtenberg**; cruise to Bobcageon, Thursday, Aug. 26; Medi Trust program, Monday, Aug. 30, 1 p.m.; Israeli trip Nov. 14-Dec. 2. For information on all activities and trips, call **Lena**, 785-5773, or **Ruth**, 224-5923. Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield**, 787-1526.

The Wagman Centre Self-Help Widows Group, 55 years of age and over, meets every other Sunday to help each other deal with mourning, adjust to loss, share experiences and make new friends. The next meeting is Aug. 22, from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Wagman Centre Boardroom, 55 Ameer Ave. For more information, call **Paula David**, 789-5131, ext. 2271.

George Brown Seniors' Association is on the move! Due to renovations at George Brown College, the association office has been assigned a new location, St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., 5th Floor. Until a new phone number is given, continue to use the 944-4526 number for information on lecture series and bridge club.

Earl Bales Seniors' Club upcoming events— Saturday dance Aug. 21, 7-10 p.m. (members free, non-members $1); Sunday dance with live band Aug. 29, 7:30-10:30 p.m. (members $4, non-members $5); trips to Buffalo and Stage West plus the annual bazaar. North York Board of Education programs starting Sept. 20 are bridge, fitness, line dancing, yoga. For information on all activities and trips, call club office, 395-7881.

At the **Wagman Centre**— The Wellness Education Group presents The Maintenance of a Healthy Mouth with **Dr. Charles Munro**, chief of dentistry, Baycrest Centre, Wednesday, Aug. 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Lecture will include The Teeth, Gums And The Mouth. Admission is free for Wagman Centre members and Baycrest Terrace residents, $2 for guests (to be paid at the door). Register at centre office, 789-5131, ext. 2267, by Aug. 24. A movie will be shown Sunday, Aug. 22, 1:30 p.m. On Tuesday, Aug. 24, pianist **Natalya Tyomkina** will present a program of classical music, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

LZA Seniors Club continues taking registration for the 1994 Miami trips Wednesday mornings 10 to noon at the Borochov Cultural Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Social activities take place at the centre Monday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Discussion Group meets Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Ladies Dance Group meets Tuesdays 1 p.m.

Club Hadar meets every Monday and Thursday, 1-4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. Meeting Room 2. Activities include Tai Chi, painting, discussions, bingo, cards. For information, call **Violet Landman**, 886-2625.

Senior Adult Services in the Annex, 300 Bloor St. W., is a non-profit, charitable organization that runs recreational and educational programs for seniors 55 and over. Fall programs include crafts, luncheon club, calligraphy, line dancing, trips/outings, starting the beginning of September, plus Board of Education programs bridge instruction, painting/art instruction, adventures in learning (lecture series on current events) which begin Sept. 20. To register or for more information, call **Jennifer Ford**, 923-8909.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone number is 225-2112.

Do you think you may be taken advantage of by a member of your family, by a landlord, by someone you trust? Hear **Dianne Macinnis**, Elder Abuse co-ordinator, Metropolitan Toronto Police Department, discuss Financial Abuse, Tuesday, Aug. 24, 1:30 p.m. No charge and everyone is welcome. For further information, contact **Sheila Zane**, 225-2112. This is sponsored by Awareness Project on Abuse of the Elderly.

A trip for members to Woodbine Race Track is set for Thursday, Aug. 26, departing at noon. Charge is $5. Non-members may purchase tickets for $7 five days before trip at Information desk. Call **Shari**, 225-2112.

A dance with music by the Creative Band is arranged for Sunday, Aug. 22, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Members $3.50, non-members $4.

Also on Sunday, Aug. 22, the movie *How Green Was My Valley* will be screened, 2:30 p.m. Members free, non-members $1.

Singer **Faye Kellerstein** presents A History of Yiddish Songs Wednesday, Aug. 25, 1:30 p.m. Members $2.50, non-members $3.50.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew speaking adults, meets every Wednesday, 7 p.m. Programs include movies, lectures, concerts and dances. For more information, call **Anna**, 225-2112.

at the JCC

The Jewish Community Centre Bloor Y branch is looking for vendors for arts and craft show taking place Sunday, Sept. 12, at the Bloor Y. Call **Luni**, 924-6211.

Applications are now being accepted from artists to showcase their art work at the Bloor Y. If you are interested in participating in the art exhibits, submit your written application, including photos or slides by Aug. 30 to Bloor Y Branch, 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto, M5S 2J2. Attention: Art Selection Committee.

About People

YESHIVA BUSINESS SCHOOL GRADS

Two Toronto area graduates were among the 33 business and accounting majors from Yeshiva University's Sy Syms School of Business who were successfully placed in business service fields by the school's placement program. They are **David Ghermezian** and **Mark Lipner**.

BETH SHOLOM OFFICERS

Beth Sholom Synagogue newly elected officers for 1993/94 are **Dr. Norman Talsky**, president; **Alan Zelunka, Warren Kimel** and **Tom Kolin**, vice-presidents; **Barry Lerner**, treasurer. Immediate past president is **Marshall Folk**.

CANADA 125 MEDALS

Add to the list of Canada 125 Medal recipients recognized for their significant contributions to community and Canada — **Marilyn Raphael**, former chair of the Reena Foundation; B'nai Brith leaders **Gabriel Nachman**, national president; **Lyle Smordin**, national vice-president, **Prof. Stephen Scheinberg**, member of the board of governors, and **Ian Kagedan**, director of Government Relations; six Cape Bretoners **Faye Miller, Percy (Pinky) Gaum, Shirley Chernin, Jack Yazer, Sharon Irwin** and **Harvey Webber**; and **Gail Hock** and **Lill Weiss** from Kitchener/Waterloo.

BAYCREST STAFF APPOINTMENT

Baycrest Centre has announced that **Cara Westcott** has been named program director at the Baycrest Terrace and the Wagman Centre. Westcott, who has a masters degree in health administration from the University of Ottawa, was executive assistant to Baycrest's president and chief executive officer. Before that she worked as research associate at the Science Council of Canada.

Cara Westcott

RABBI JONATHAN PLAUT

Following eight years as spiritual leader at Temple Emanu-El in San Jose, Calif., **Rabbi Jonathan Plaut** has returned to the Detroit/Windsor area where he served as rabbi for 15 years at Windsor's Beth El Congregation. Rabbi Plaut is now director of outreach at the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. This is a brand-new position aimed at getting Jews involved in Jewish life.

Rabbi Plaut

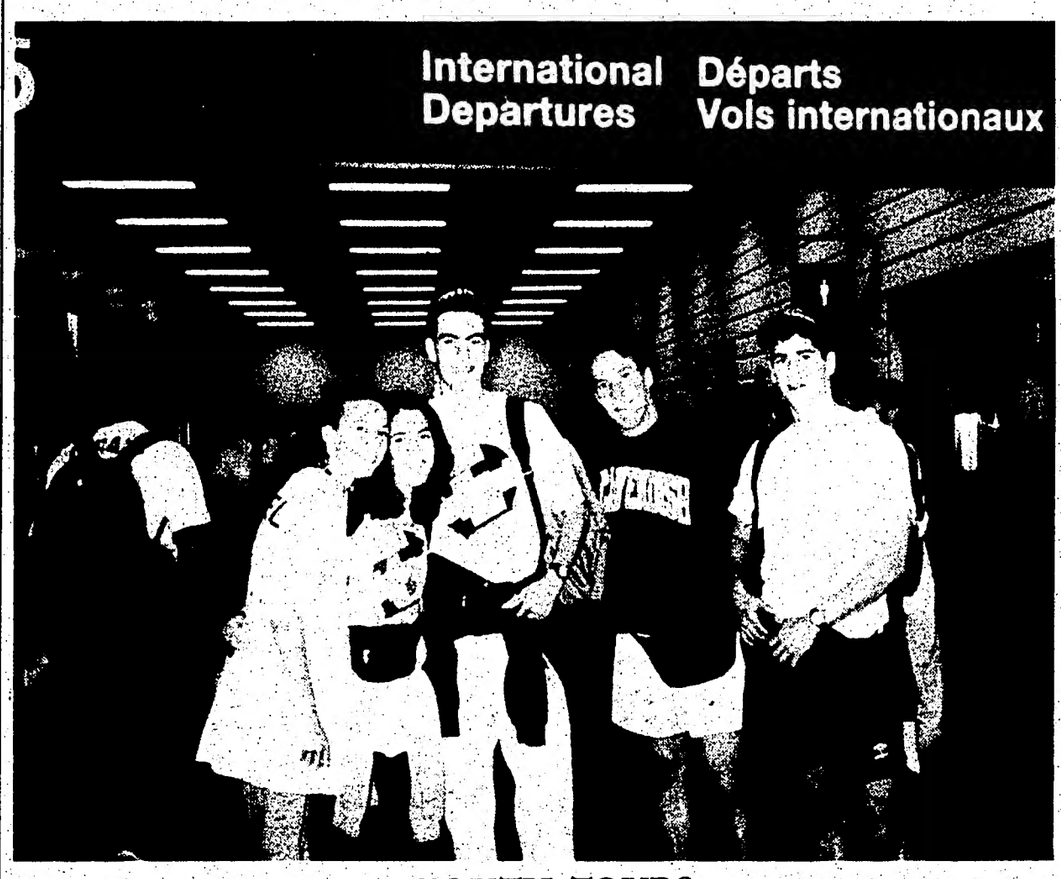
Rabbi Plaut and his wife **Carol** (formerly of Toronto) have two children, **Daniel**, who is attending the University of the Pacific, and **Deborah**, a junior at the University of Arizona. Rabbi Plaut is the son of **Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut** and **Elizabeth Plaut.**

SYNAGOGUE EXECUTIVE

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue recently elected executive is headed by **Gordon Garshowitz**, president; with **Marvin Gold**, 1st vice-president; **Eric Goldberg**, 2nd vice-president; **Margo Grosbein**, treasurer; **Deanie Rumack**, secretary. **Larry Ross** is immediate past president.

MINYANAIRES HONORED

At a recent festive breakfast, Beth Torah Congregation honored some faithful Minyanaires who support the daily minyan in the synagogue. The honorees were each presented with a kiddush set. Standing (from left) are honorees Jack Kates, president, and Irving Mueller, gabbai, with Rabbi Charles Freumdlich and Cantor Samuel Frankel. Seated (from left) are honorees Ted Goldstein, head usher, Zoltan Mandel, gabbai, who holds the gift kiddush set, and Nathan Naymark, secretary of the board. Absent Minyanaire honorees are Larry Gross and Lou Lukofsky. [Mollie Rothmaa photo]



YOUTH TOURS

Over 550 Canadian participants in this year's Israel Summer Programs spent up to six weeks in Israel on several different youth tours. These programs are offered by the Youth and Hechalutz Department, a major branch of the Canadian Zionist Federation and World Zionist Organization. Seen above are participants from Toronto and Winnipeg departing for Israel. For more information about youth programs in Israel, call the Israel Youth Program Centre, 398-6931.

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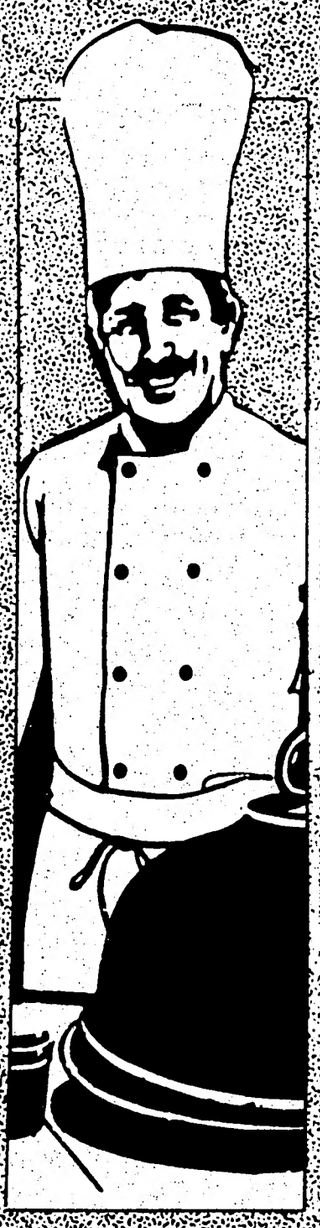

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Organizations and People

Men's singles winner Allan Tameshtit (centre) receiving championship trophy from Isaac Oziel (right) and Ralph Amar at the recently completed Chai Memorial Tennis Tournament in memory of Henry Amar.

New winners take stage at Chai tennis tourney

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — Some new faces graced the winner's stand at the recently-completed seventh annual Chai Memorial Tennis Tournament, held at the Mayfair Racquet Club West.

Alice Bensimon, who lost the championship game to Edith Benchetrit last year, captured the women's singles title this time around. Bensimon had to come from behind to defeat Rosie Sherman by scores of 2-6, 6-4 and 6-4.

Ladies doubles competition also saw the crowning of new champions as Nina M. Keslassy teamed with Bensimon to prevail 7-6, 6-3 in a tough match against the team of Miriam Toby and Nina S. Keslassy.

About 200 spectators were on hand to view men's singles action, and to many, it was a repeat performance of last year's script. Allan Tameshtit, who must have a living room full of silverware by now, defended the men's title by defeating Patrick Assaraf 6-3, 6-2. Tameshtit had to get past Shouki Halfon in the semifinals to get to the title game. Last year he beat Halfon in the finals but two years ago, Halfon defeated Tameshtit in the championship match.

The Chai Tennis Tournament is held in honor of Henry Amar, who died of brain cancer Dec. 5, 1986 at the age of 18. Organized by his father, Ralph, in cooperation with the Petah Tikva Anshei Castilla Synagogue, the tournament has grown year by year. Henry Amar was an avid tennis player as well as a provincially-ranked soccer player who made the Canadian national team in his age group.

"We miss him," wrote his father in this year's program. "We miss his kindness, warmth, love and generosity. We miss the pleasure of watching him exhibit his skill and grace in sports — whether it was soccer, basketball or tennis."

This year's tournament saw the participation of 120 players. Organizers added a second men's singles division for players of similar ability. Titled the B Division, it saw Armando Benlezrah defeat Isaac Gabay 6-4, 6-3.

In men's doubles action, Sam and Allan Small repeated as winners, as they defeated the team of Habib and Moshe Benlezrah 6-3, 6-4.

In a new development, tournament organizers added a junior competition for players under 14. In all, 24 youngsters participated in the competition, which was organized by 14-year-old Sam Oziel. Jack Benarroch won the title by defeating Adam Benmoise 6-2, 6-1.

In father and son competition, Avi and Adam Benmoise teamed up to defeat Isaac and Sam Oziel, last year's champions, 6-4, 6-4.

When he wasn't busy playing, Isaac Oziel served as the tournament's technical director, assisted by his brother Jim.

Massad's a family affair

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — Joel and Leah Braemer's marriage was a match made at Massad. It only seemed natural therefore that the Hebrew language camp, about 50 miles north of Winnipeg, should be the site of the Braemers' first bat mitzvah.

The Braemars were both campers. They met in 1972, when both were counsellors, and married in 1973. While Leah was pregnant with Ryla in 1980, she served as assistant director. Joel has been a board member for almost 10 years and just ending a five-year term as president.

"When we started thinking about Ryla's bat mitzvah, Massad was the natural choice," says Leah.

Massad was founded just over 40 years ago as a zionist youth camp. It differs from more traditional Jewish camps in its emphasis both on spoken Hebrew and drama and creativity in addition to regular camping activities. Over the years, it has fostered a close camaraderie among campers, counsellors and administrators.

The bat mitzvah was held in Massad's auditorium on June 26 with the kiddush in the dining hall. Program director Perry Rubenfeld served as chazzan while the choir was composed of camp alumni.

"We had 250 guests," Leah says. "We based the service on Massad's traditional Shabbat service which has special meaning for both Joel and me."

The service was egalitarian with family members doing the Torah reading and the bat mitzvah reading the Haftorah. Leah notes that there was a lot of singing included in the service both for the choir and the congregation as a whole. Many of the melodies were based on compositions from the famed Winnipeg cantor Benjamin Brownstone.

"We were particularly happy to have Leona Billinkoff with us," says Leah. Almost from its formation until 1978, Billinkoff was the camp administrator. She was almost synonymous with Massad.

Ryla's will not be the only bar/batmitzvah that Camp Massad will host. The Braemer's have two younger sons who will undoubtedly celebrate their bar mitzvahs at camp and Leah reports that her sister and brother-in-law (who also met at Massad) and Joel's sister and brother-in-law are considering having their children bar and bat mitzvahed at the camp as well.

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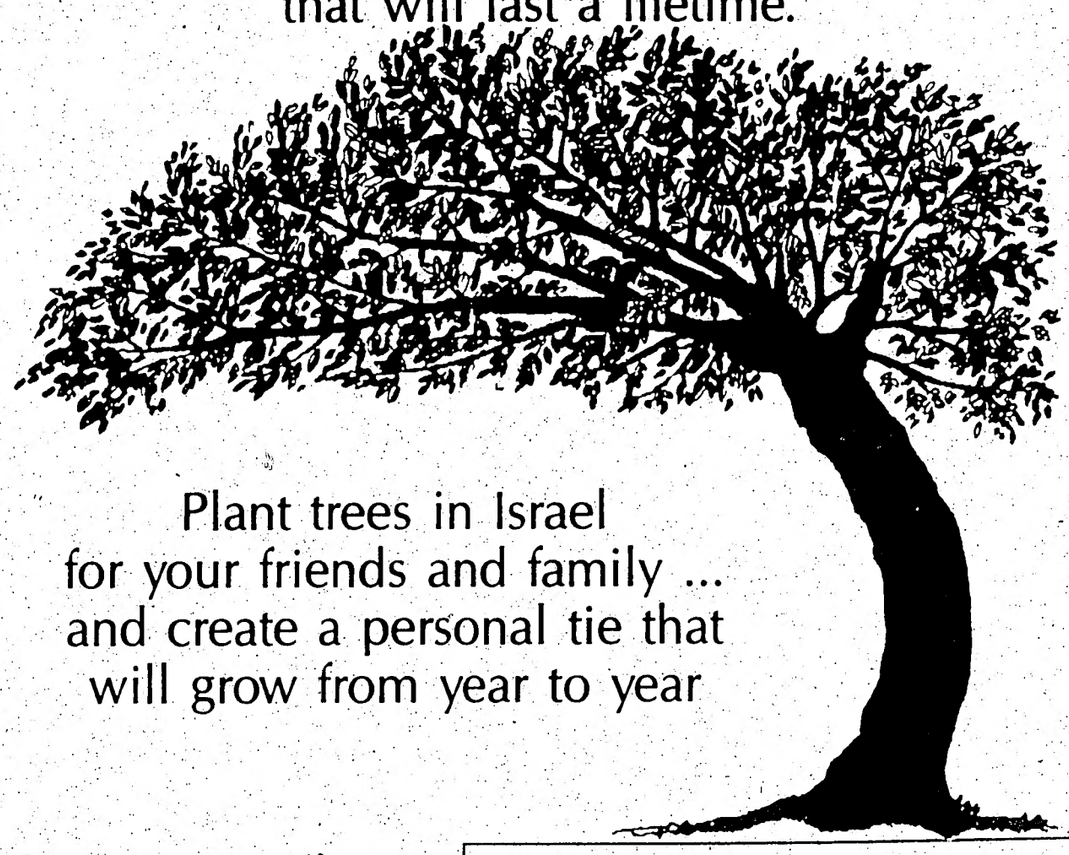

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Organizations and People

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The Israel Scout Friendship Caravan will be performing at the amphitheatre at Mel Lastman Square on Aug. 25 at 7:30 p.m. The friendship Caravan, consisting of 10 Israeli teenagers, tell through song and dance about Israel. Their one hour show, now in its 20th season, is a demonstration of the vibrancy of Israel's future. They tell the story of the absorption of immigration and the commitment to the building of the Jewish state. This event is co-sponsored by the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and the Jewish Community Centre of Toronto.

Guelph student finishes fourth in Maccabiah karate division

By JANIS RAISEN

TORONTO — A University of Guelph student who trains at Superkids Karate in Toronto, won fourth place overall in the karate division of the Maccabiah, mostly against men one-and-a-half times his weight.

Jordan Sadja, 31, was for the second time, one of five Canadian team members at the Maccabiah in Israel. His training over the last 10 years with Wally Slocki, co-founder of Superkids Karate, has earned him fifth place in the 1989 Maccabiah games and fourth place this year. Slocki was the Canadian karate champion three years in a row and North American kung fu and karate champion for four straight years.

Sadja has learned a lot from training with Slocki at Superkids and he said he would have fought better if Slocki was there with him.

"I don't think I've ever lost a fight that Wally Slocki has been at," said Sadja.

But he still considers fourth place an accomplishment because he said most people didn't expect someone of his size to do well. He fought in the open division with no weight restriction forcing him to compete against men who were 30-60 pounds heavier than him.

Sadja was one fight away from winning the bronze medal, but he sees this as a potential future gain.

"If I would have won the bronze, I might have retired and just wanted to coach. But because I didn't, this gives me incentive to compete one final time."

That time would be during the next Maccabiah where he hopes to be more than just a competitor.

"I'd like to compete and coach," said Sadja "I want to get more involved with the organization of the Canadian karate team."

Main objective

Sadja believes the team may have won if they would have practised ahead of time, but with three of them outside Ontario it was not possible.

His main objective is for the Canadian karate teams of the future to bring back a record number of medals from the Maccabiah because he is disappointed they didn't win this year.

Ever since Sadja was young, he always competed in three or four sports a year. Although he didn't begin karate till he was 20, he started with judo when he was just seven.

Superkids became involved with the Maccabiah in 1985 when they contacted Slocki.

"They asked me if I'd coach the team and I told them it would be a pleasure and an honor," said Slocki.

But he puts his students through vigorous training.

"I work their backsides off. I make sure they go on a schedule where they have to do certain things, like running and other cardiovascular work," said Slocki. "I used to crank the heat up to 110 degrees. I figured Israel would be very hot and I wanted them to get used to certain things."

The last two Maccabiah games have been memorable for Sadja and he values the opportunity to meet other Jewish karatekas.

"There's a lot of talent around the world coming through this sport from the Jewish communities," said Sadja. "That to me is one of the nicest things about the whole tournament —meeting friends with common interests, Jewish brothers and sisters from all over the world. That was one of the most gratifying experiences."

Segal follows in family tradition

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — In the world of top-calibre tennis, you could say that Sabrina Segal came to the sport a little late. At the ripe old age of 12, Segal decided to hang up her ballet tutu and pick up a tennis racket to see what she could do.

What she found was that, under the watchful gaze of her father, Steve, a tennis pro and manager at the Sherway Tennis Club in Mississauga, she could make rapid progress. By the time she turned 16, Sabrina was ranked 10th in Canada in her age group.

This past summer, as a 17-year-old, she qualified for the SunLife Nationals in Toronto by defeating Melanie Boulet of Quebec City, 6-2, 6-2. Unfortunately, she lost her first-round match to Sharon Mieres by scores of 6-3 and 6-0.

Despite the loss, Segal said she was not too disappointed since she wasn't even expected to qualify for the high-calibre tournament in the first place.

A more emotional, and disappointing, moment came for Segal at the recent Ontario Closed Under-18 Tennis Championship, held at Kew Gardens in the Beaches area of Toronto.

Competing with 30 others, Segal lost a tough match against second seed Sophie Ljucovic of Dundas, dropping the contest by scores of 6-3 and 7-5. Nevertheless, her game was good enough to get her into a playoff for third spot, but that's where the real heartbreak occurred as she lost a nail-biter to Stephanie Slipacofs by scores of 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 and 11-9 in the tie-breaker.

Still, by finishing in the top six, Segal earned a spot in the under-18 nationals, which will be held in Laval, Que. in August.

Segal was also named recently to Ontario's entry in the Jeux Canada Games, to be held from Aug. 8-21 in Kamloops, B.C. The games are considered a training ground for international competition, including the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and the Pan-Am Games.

Segal said that despite being the daughter of a tennis-playing father, she feels no pressure because of it. She sees tennis as a vehicle to get an education and not as a profession. She hopes to obtain a tennis scholarship at a U.S. university for the school year beginning in September 1994.

Segal says her backhand could stand some improvement while the strongest part of her game is a powerful forehand shot which allows her to stay on the baseline and play a volleying game.

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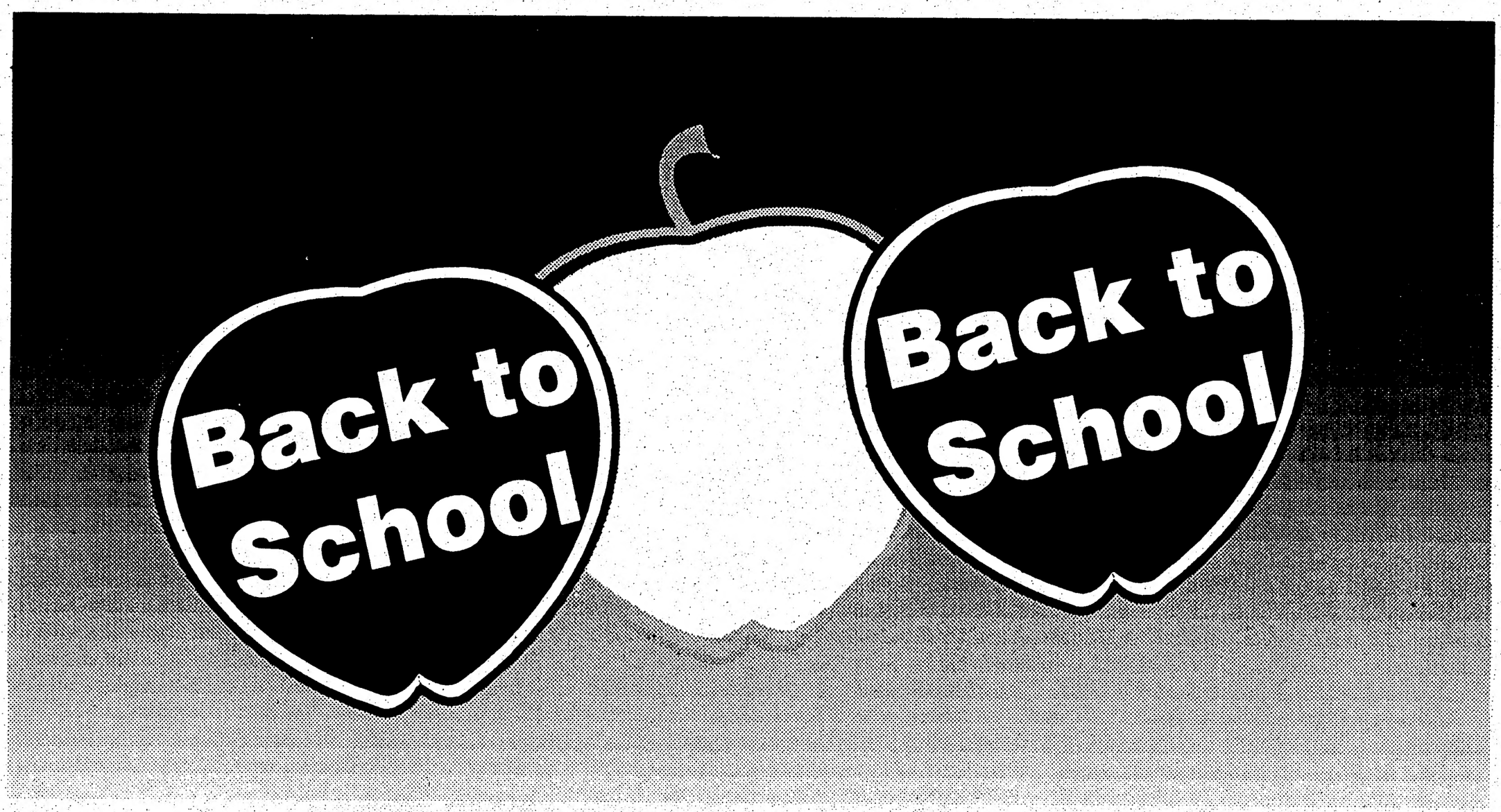

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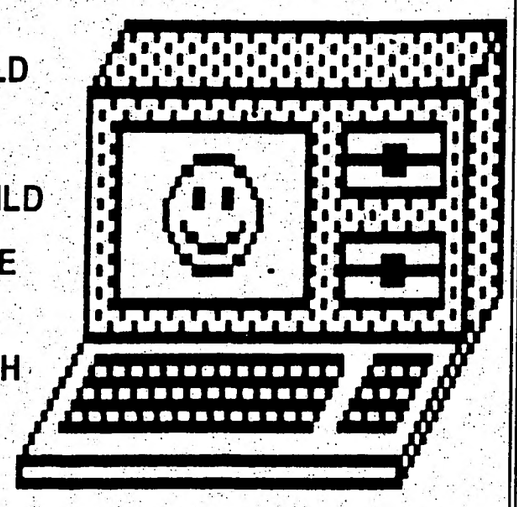

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Today, as in ancient times, we are surrounded by water at home or at the cottage. For personal safety, Liebmann says every child ought to learn how to swim.

Safety, however, is not the only reason for learning how to swim. Children who are unable to swim or who swim poorly miss out on a lot of fun at summer camp. "They can't canoe, sail and waterski," Liebmann says.

Courses at Frank's Swim School are offered seven days a week year-round, with a teacher-student ratio of one to three or one to four. Liebmann says that weekly swimming lessons from Sept. to June will have the pupil swimming like a fish come summer.

The school has a superb program for mothers and infants three months and up and toddlers to 2½. Liebmann teaches all of the Parent and Tot classes.

At Frank's Swim School children of all ages learn to swim in a unique indoor pool designed and built by Liebmann. Located at Kodiak Crescent near Allen Road and Sheppard, it is the only one of its kind in Canada. The water level of this terraced pool gradually increases from two inches at the shallow end to five feet at the deep end.

Children learning to swim, he says, have to be able to move around. In the shallow end of his pool, they can sit, stand and walk. The water is kept at a constant 92 degrees, and the surrounding air at 94 degrees. "For little children you need warm water," Liebmann says.

Originally from Hungary, Liebmann has been teaching swimming for 40 years. He opened Frank's Swim School in 1969. More than 2,000 children take classes there each week.

The program includes Red Cross and Royal Life classes from yellow to white level, bronze medallion and bronze cross, as well as leader courses. The school has a swim team for serious swimmers. Fitness training and instruction in the techniques of competitive-style swimming are also available.

The fall session runs from Sept. 18 to Dec. 17. Following is the schedule for the rest of the year: Winter — January to March (10 weeks); Spring — April to June (12 weeks); Summer — July to August (6 weeks).

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A selection of Robin snowsuits for boys includes a suede-look in olive or slate with appliqued crests. For the boy who would rather not wear a snowsuit, the store has sturdy jackets in green, navy and red.

Bianca Neve features High Holiday wear for girls that is truly special. The shop carries a line of elegant Alfred Sung suits as well as several quality Canadian designer dresses.

The shop's classic wool dress coats trimmed with velour and accompanied by a matching hat are perfect for any special occasion.

For the boys, there are sports jackets, suits and dress pants in the latest colors including husky fit.

At Bianca Neve the store philosophy is to co-ordinate a wardrobe, not just an outfit. Many customers buy several outfits which are co-ordinated by Susan and her friendly, knowledgeable sales staff.

Young, and her husband, Steve, have worked together in the fashion industry for over 10 years. Steve is responsible for the marketing end of their retail operation.

The store is located in the heart of Little Italy and visiting the area is a delight for those who enjoy Toronto's ethnic neighborhoods. Bianca Neve is at 1268 St. Clair Ave. W., just west of Dufferin (656-9560).

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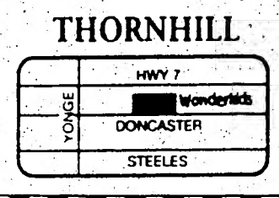

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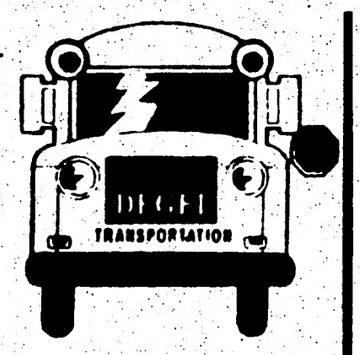

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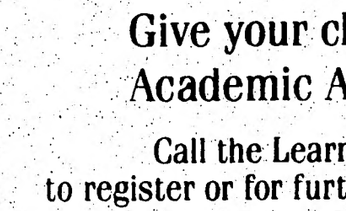

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Adults and seniors can take courses on Bizet's *Carmen,* the beauty of early music or on reading music. Mary Lou Fallis, known for her hit show *Primadonna,* will be teaching several interesting courses at the Royal Conservatory this fall. With Fallis, you can explore the therapeutic effects of music in the course entitled "Soothe Your Soul: Music After Work."

All these programs are available at the Royal Conservatory's downtown Toronto location at 273 Bloor St. W.

For more information, please fill out the coupon in the advertisement below and send it to the Royal Conservatory of Music or telephone 408-2825.

North York school board notes scholastic winners

The 1994 school year is under way and the North York Board of Education is continuing its tradition of excellence in teaching.

At last year's end, 1,005 Ontario Scholars graduated in North York, more than each of the previous two years. An Ontario scholar is a student who averages 80 percent or more on a minimum of six OAC (formerly grade 13) subjects. In 1993, one in four North York public school graduates qualified as an Ontario Scholar.

Testing strengths and weaknesses

The top graduating student in North York this year was Grace Wu, with an average of 98.5 percent. She was followed by Samuel Yip, with 98.3 percent, and Ashraf Michail, with a 97.3 percent average. Wu and Michail were both in the gifted program at Earl Haig Secondary School. Admission into this program requires testing at an early grade, followed by annual tests to ensure a certain scholastic level is maintained.

Wu's final OAC marks included perfect scores in physics, algebra and geometry. She also found time to volunteer in the student guidance office, arranging for former Earl Haig students to come back and talk about their universities. She also attained Grade 10 piano from the Royal Conservatory of Music.

How is the North York school system able to produce such fine students? Jim Grieve, superintendent of administrative services, explains. "In the last four years, focus on literacy and mathematic skills has improved. Teachers have trained and retrained in their understanding of these. Also, we're buying materials we think are appropriate for training."

Level testing begins in Grade 3 and is repeated in grades 6 and 9 to allow the teacher to see how a child is doing and what the strengths and weaknesses are in the class. He or she can then tailor the program accordingly.

Of the four components of math — problem solving, basic arithmetic, algebra and geometry — word problems are a big issue because they are a practical application of mathematics. More attention is being paid to this subject because the board is putting its emphasis on "accentuating basic skills."

Reflecting on her experience at Earl Haig, Wu says "it promoted a lot of independence, to work on your own. Independent thinking." This is exactly what the North York education system strives for.

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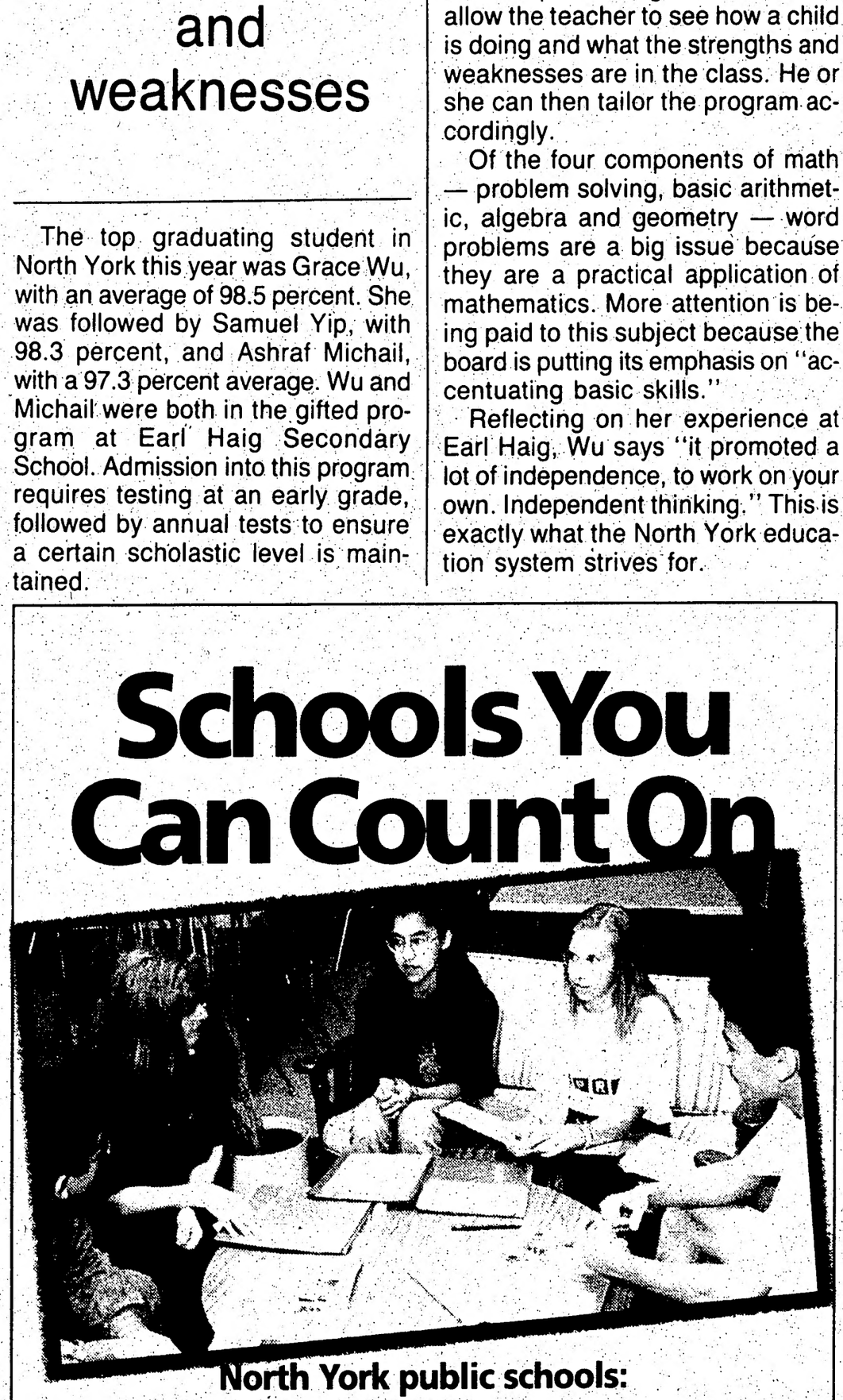

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Arts

Eye on Arts

The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band will play at Mel Lastman Square on Aug. 22 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Sunday Serenades series.

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* * *

The Toronto New Leadership Group of the Jerusalem Foundation of Canada presents East Meets West — A Musical Evening on Sept. 8 at 8 p.m. at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, 1700 Bathurst St.

The event will feature a pot-pourri of Jewish folk music including Allan Merovitz, the vocalist and percussionist from The Flying Bulgar Klezmer Band, the Yiddish, Russian and Czech songs of Lenda Lichtenberg, Judeo-Spanish music from Judith Cohen, and Victor Abraham with music from Broadway.

For more information contact Rochelle Israel at 771-9051.

* * *

The two-part documentary *Being Jewish* will premiere on TVO Sept. 13 and 14 at 8 p.m.

Toronto filmmaker Jonathan Perlman presents the insights of some of the world's leading Jewish figures into what it means to be a Jew and whether Judaism can survive.

Part I explores the Jewish tradition, while part 2 looks at the current state of North American Jewry and issues of intermarriage, Jewish existence and survival, what can be done to ensure continuity, education, rabbis, synagogues and the future.

Among those interviewed for the series are Irving Abella, president of Canadian Jewish Congress, Alan Dershowitz, Dr. Henry Morgentaler, Emil Fackenheim, Ruth Wisse and Moses Znaimer.

* * *

Los Angeles-based independent label Bainbridge Records will reissue *Theodore Bikel Sings More Yiddish Folk Songs*, the fourth in a collection of traditional music by the internationally-known entertainer to be reissued by the label.

Bikel is known throughout the world for his appearances in theatre and films and is also recognized as a folk singer with roots firmly planted in Jewish culture.

Goodbye Girl hits Broadway

By GERRY MORRIS

NEW YORK — The $7-million production of Neil Simon's *The Goodbye Girl* is the Jewish-American playwright's 27th work to hit Broadway. The musical co-stars Bernadette Peters and Martin Short, and is adapted from the 1977 movie of the same title.

In a nutshell, *The Goodbye Girl* is the story of struggling dancer and single mother who hasn't been very lucky in love. Paula McFadden (Peters) and her 12-year-old daughter (Tammy Minoff) share a New York apartment, which they find to their dismay has been sublet to someone else — an arrogant Chicago actor named Elliott Garfield (Short). He arrives, lease in hand, and insists on taking possession. All is finally resolved with everyone sharing space, hopes, dreams, aspirations and, well, you can guess the rest.

Despite the stunning array of talent that created and appears in *The Goodbye Girl*, the stage version does not capture the warmth of the original film starring Richard Dreyfus and Marsha Mason. Those two brought an ingratiating and off-beat chemistry to their roles.

Simon's adaptation of his own screenplay often seems unfocused and is only occasionally funny. The promising first act provides his usual quotient of enjoyable gags, but unfortunately he can't get his second act together. Cheap laughs and inappropriate musical numbers are unwisely inserted in lieu of developing the romance between Elliott and Paula. Marvin Hamlisch's songs are hardly likely to match his Pulitzer Prize-winning score for *A Chorus Line*, but the music nevertheless has a distinctive and tuneful brassiness. David Zippel's lyrics are clever enough, but Michael Kidd's staging gives no hint of why he was chosen to replace long-time Simon director Gene Saks during tryouts.

Bernadette Peters and Martin Short in "The Goodbye Girl".

Few musicals in recent years have come to Broadway with credentials as good as those of *The Goodbye Girl*, not to mention the $10 million in advance sales. And you just couldn't do better than casting Broadway veteran Peters with newcomer Short, but the results are mixed. The play doesn't take advantage of Peters' triple-threat gifts. She is not given the best lines, nor the best songs, and fails to come across as sympathetic in the role of a whiney and not altogether likeable loser. Short on the other hand is immediately charming, and when he bounds onstage his exuberance is both exciting and contagious.

It's worth the price of admission just to see this former *SCTV* and *Saturday Night Live* cast member exude his special brand of charisma, with lots of vocal prowess to spare. Short has appeared in stage productions in his native Canada, including *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and *Godspell*.

The Goodbye Girl is appearing for an indefinite run at the Marquis Theatre, 1535 Broadway. For tickets call Ticketmaster (212) 307-4100.

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Sherman welcomes monetary award

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — The $100,000 Jason Sherman won from the Chalmers Foundation for writing the best Canadian play last year couldn't have come at a better time.

"It's going for rent, food and diapers," said Sherman.

The 30-year-old playwright and his actress wife, Melinda Little, have a 20-month-old son, Noah.

Sherman, who has eked out a living for 10 years working at various jobs in the theatre world, won the presitigious prize for *A League of Nathans*.

It is about three bar mitzvah boys named Nathan. As they grow older, and apart, one (Glass) opts to live in Israel, another (Isaacs) becomes a wealthy businessman in Winnipeg with a sharp and obscene tongue, and the third (Abramowitz) is an actor who resists Glass' attempts to recruit him as a kibbutznik.

After they've been apart for seven years, Glass suddenly invites Isaacs and Abramowitz to meet him in a synagogue in Toledo, Spain, and sends them air tickets paid for by members of his kibbutz.

This is a final ploy by Glass to get Abramowitz onside. Glass accuses his friend of watching the struggles in Israel and refusing to become involved. Abramowitz accepts the challenge but says he'll stay in Canada to fight for the ideals they both have.

The $10,000 award came just in the nick of time, says Sherman, because rent and food money was running low. "I had a good year last year with commissions and grants but this year is not so good," he said.

Jason Sherman

Though *A League of Nathans* was controversial, and was staged at Theatre Passe Muraille during the Gulf War, Sherman says he got little feedback from people who thought it was anti-Israel. Most of the audiences were mixed, Jews and non-Jews.

"People discussed it in terms of the friendship of three men, a friendship informed by politics, but they didn't think the politics was that important."

A League of Nathans is not autobiographical, Sherman says. "I have few Jewish friends." But he said the role of the grandfather who was a survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto was based on his mother's father.

During his days in high school and in a drama course at York University, he wrote many plays but *A League of Nathans* was the first in which he touched on a Jewish theme.

But that's the past. His current play *Three in the Back, Two in the Head* opening at the Tarragon Theatre on Dec. 28, deals with the CIA-ordered death of an arms designer in the world of high level espionage. "Israel looms large in the backgrond of this one," he said.

And his next play is based on Shabbatai Zvi, the false messiah. In his version, a writer and her work on Zvi's life are exploited by a Hollywood con man in the same way that Zvi exploited his followers.

Between juggling these scripts, Sherman found time, with Daniel Brooks, to, write the Dora Award show staged June 17.

Sherman is one of eight sons of Cyril and Grace Sherman. Sherman Sr. is a well-kown Little Theatre actor. Jason's brothers are Jeff, a psychologist who lives in Ottawa; Mark, a vice-principal in Bradford, Ont.; Paul, executive director of a youth drop-in clinic in Vaughan; Mike, of Toronto, a travelling salesman; Rick, a freelance theatre director, Ned, in the Toronto computer business; and Jamie, who has just graduated from Teachers' College. Jason is the second youngest.

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Montreal theatre troupe's play makes a short stop in Toronto

The Montreal theatre troupe Boujadi, whose production of *La Bsalade imaginaire* received high praise at the Festival of Amateur Theatre in Montreal in June, has taken its show on the road.

In the air, to be precise — and for a royal command performance. The troupe presented its adaptation into the Judeo-Moroccan language of Molière's classic *Le malade imaginaire* at three performances in Casablanca earlier this month, as part of a cultural festival organized by the Moroccan Jewish community to mark the 64th birthday of King Hassan II.

Before jetting off to Casablanca, Bijoudi, which is affiliated with the Centre Communautaire Juif de Montréal, brought the production to Toronto's Leah Posluns Theatre for one performance.

The co-ordinator of the amateur festival in Montreal, Lyette Archambault, was effusive in her praise of the play. "An original work, wholly remarkable at every level," she told *The Canadian Jewish News* in an interview. "The 15 members of our selection jury were charmed and very impressed by the precision and very high quality of the work of all the troupe's actors and of their producer, M. Solly Lévy. They brought us a finished product worthy of true professionals."

Arts

Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

Pleading Guilty, by Scott Turow (Harper Collins, $25).

McCormack A. "Mack" Malloy, the unlikely hero of Scott Turow's fourth novel, is a middle-aged former policeman, a partially cured alcoholic and a poorly regarded lawyer in the prestigious firm of Gage & Griswell.

Bert Kamin, an erratic but brilliant member of the firm, disappears with about $5.5 million, money which had been set aside to settle a class action suit in an airline disaster. Malloy is pressured into looking for the missing lawyer. The firm's Oversight Committee is eager for the mystery to be solved and the loot recovered before Transnational, a highly profitable client, learns of the theft and takes its business elsewhere. It is hoped that Malloy, with his police experience, will be able to find his missing colleague and recover the funds.

Pleading Guilty is Malloy's account of the search for Kamin and the tangled web of clues and findings that he uncovers. These include a fraudulent credit card, an elaborate wagering scheme involving basketball games and a newly-created corpse.

What distinguishes Turow's novels from those of his numerous competitors is his ability to create memorable characters. As Malloy follows Kamin's trail he meets up with the long-time enemy, malignant detective Gino Dimonte; the odious octogenarian Toots Nuccio; lovely but dangerous Glyndora Gaines, head of the accounts department; and lusty Brushy Buccia, who responds enthusiastically to Malloy's advances.

Convoluted plot

The plot becomes convoluted when Kamin and his money surface and Malloy is caught in a welter of conflicting emotions and loyalties.

An ingenious twist satisfactorily resolves the intricate drama. Somewhat longer than necessary, and liberally sprinkled with the obligatory four-letter words, *Pleading Guilty* is still a tour de force.

Turow has ventured from the familiar terrain of his two previous novels to strike gold in new ground.

* * *

The Fifties, by David Halberstam (Random House, $35).

Do you remember the 1950s? It was a convulsive and pivotal decade in America's political, economic, social and cultural history.

This was the time of the Korean War, the National Security hysteria, the heyday of Senator Joe McCarthy, the struggle for black equality and civil rights, the visit of Nikita Khrushchev and the development of the hydrogen bomb.

1950s was pivotal decade

National TV was changing the recreation habits, the advertising and the politics of the nation. The sitcoms proved immensely popular. Milton Berle cavorted; Nixon gave his "Checkers" (name of his dog) speech to assure his place on the Eisenhower ticket; J.F.K. and Nixon debated; and the "Twenty One" questions quiz show was revealed as dishonest to the dismay of 30 million viewers.

Prominent figures of the period included cocky Harry Truman who dismissed arrogant General Douglas MacArthur; Robert Openheimer, one of the fathers of the atomic bomb who fell victim to vicious Red-baiting; the young and eloquent Martin Luther King; the charming and witty Adlai Stevenson; adroit Secretary of State Dean Acheson; and also Elvis Presley, Jack Kerouac, Klaus Fuchs, Alger Hiss and Dr. Gregory Pincus, leader of the team that invented the birth control pill. The book provides the reader with a series of dramatic and intimate mini-biographies.

This sprawling era with its cascade of events and personalities is skillfully depicted by Halberstam, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of the much praised trilogy, *The Best and the Brightest, The Powers That Be* and *The Reckoning*.

If you were alive during the '50s, this book will bring back memories of a tumultuous era; if you were not, the events depicted will be a source of continual astonishment and entertainment. *The Fifties* is highly recommended as popular and informed social history.

Outdoor Yiddish concert well-received by audiences

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — If Einstein's theory of relativity means you're here and you're not here, why should you pay back a $20 loan given when you were not here?

That was the inverted logic behind a hilarious skit by Allen Farkas and Michael Lebovic entitled *Einstein and Weinstein* in which Lebovic's guttural declaimers are a perfect foil for the owlish and pedantic newspaper reader played by Farkas.

Penned by the famous Israeli team of Dzigan and Schumacher, it was the hit, along with Gloria Valentine's *Romania, Romania*, of the annual Yiddish concert presented last week at the outdoor Barry Zuckerman Skylight Theatre in Earl Bales Park. The concert played to a packed house in the evening and a well-attended late afternoon performance.

A light shower threatened to curtail the night show; umbrellas blossomed like poppies, a technician removed the mikes; but Skylight Theatre manager Victor Agostini bounded on stage, armed with an advisory from the weather office shouting "the show will go on!" And on it did, with nary a rain drop to follow.

The theme of Yiddish Forever Young was co-producer and director Nathan Garnick's intention to bring Yiddish up to date and to enhance its appeal to a younger audience. To this end, Jennifer Paquette, in her early 20's, a student of Yiddish along with her husband, Jeremy, was an assistant master of ceremonies. Modern arrangements of *Dem Nayem Sher, Umru Mayne* and *Saposhkelekh* by singer Allan Merovitz, guitarist Brian Katz and Jordan Klapman and his Klezmorin also fitted this design.

Merovitz got some inspired help from Valentine and Faye Kellerstein as back-up singers and from the audience in the rousing *Saposhkelekh*. In fact, at the urging of emcee and co-producer Richard Bassett, the audience got into it in a big way for several numbers.

Alexei Fateyev's Kalinka Dancers, which include some of the performers stranded here when *Russians on Broadway* folded, added a touch of cosmopolitan artistry with their colorful costumes and golden hats and braids. Unfortunately, the ensemble groups of six and eight dancers performed on a large, bare stage to recorded music, which lessened the enjoyment.

Fateyev overcame this to some extent by doing his tap dance number *Bay Mir Bistu Sheyn* closer to the audience, but his lip-synching of the lyrics interfered with the intricate steps. Cheap props like a plastic ribbon instead of a real tailor's tape measure also diminished the performance.

A well-deserved tribute to the late Peretz Miransky was a rendition of his poem *Mayn Taten's Nigun* (My Father's Song) set to music by Israeli composer Emile Gurevitz and sung by Valentine.

Valentine and Kellerstein, dressed in contrasting outfits, heated up the night air with an updated arrangement of a Molly Picon medley. In a solo appearance earlier, Kellerstein sang her own Yiddish lyrics to *And the Angels Sing* and combined the English words of *I Walk Along A Street of Sorrow* with the Yiddish classic *Tif Vi di Nakht* (Deep as the Night.)

The appearance of the Kalinka Dancers was sponsored by a number of local businesses. The performers were Natasha Otcheretko, Maria Smirnova, Galina Fateyeva, Yana Toporova, Vladimir Soudokov, Andrei Pendik and Andrewi Vinogradov.

The Klezmorin were violinist Shelley Cooperstein, guitarist Brain Katz, clarinetist Martin Van DeVen and drummer Adam David.

'20s jazz opera finds a new life

TORONTO —A jazz opera composed in 1927 infuriated the Nazis so much they used stink bombs and white mice to scare away audiences.

Now that opera, and many other pieces of music driven underground by Hitler, are on the market in Toronto record stores.

The jazz opera was *Jonny Spielt Auf Jonny Strikes Up the Band* by Ernst Krenek, a Roman Catholic mistakenly identified by Hitler's minions as a Jew, and another opera on the verboten list *Wunder der Heliane The Miracle of Heliane* by Erich Wolfgang Korngold, a Jew, who later became a rich and successful composer in Hollywood. Krenek also ended up in Hollywood.

These operas are part of an unusual project of London Records under the title of *Entartete Musik* (Degenerate Music) the name the Nazis gave to it.

The Krenek opera is on two compact discs, and the Korngold opera on three, both in German. The first runs two hours and the second more than three hours. Retrieval of this music is hailed as an exciting event by Stephen Gosewich of The Book Cellar, Delisle Court.

The Jonny opera by Krenek was a big hit after its opening in 1927 and received about 70 productions. It is about a black jazz violinist from America who is trying to take over the music scene from an aging European performer. It was so successful it drew the attention of the Nazi cultural commissars who banned further performances and labelled it a prime example of *Entartete Musik*. They went even further by taking the original poster for the opera, substituting a saxaphone for the violin, and pinning a large Star of David on the musician's lapel, to link Jews with a decadent culture.

It's ironic that the Nazis banned it because Krenek's intention was to show the superiority of European culture over that of America. However, as one critic noted, Krenek got carried away with the jazz and dance idioms of the 1920s to the extent that Jonny had the upper hand.

There is another interesting chapter in the history of this jazz opera and it concerns a rival composer, Korngold, whose father, an eminent music critic for a Vienna newspaper, threatened to blacklist any opera house that played it. Korngold Sr., was concerned that its success would overshadow his son's work.

The plan backfired because the German public clamored to see *Jonny Spielt Auf*. Korngold's *The Miracle of Helaine* also appeared in 1927. In it, Heliane, the wife of a repressive ruler, takes up with a Messiah-like stranger. It never became popular. Korngold's Jewishness consigned him to exile and his opera to oblivion.

All this took place in the late 1920s and early 1930s when Marlene Dietrich was the darling of the screen and the shimmying dancer Josephine Baker was the hit of the stage.

Both Krenek and Korngold, driven from Germany, went to Hollywood. Korngold won two oscars for his music for *Sunset Boulevard* and *A Place in the Sun*. — B.R.

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Travel

Switzerland's landscape is truly breathtaking

By LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —When people hear that you are going to Switzerland, they always enthuse about how beautiful it is. One hears that so often, one might be forgiven for expecting a major disappointment.

You would be wrong.

The mountains, valleys, buildings, flowers, and panoramic views at every bend in the road are truly breathtaking.

One of the most magnificent areas is the Jungfrau region in the Bernese Oberland, an important tourist attraction of Switzerland.

The area, like so much of Switzerland, is easily accessible by train. A note for Switzerland generally; try to get yourself a Swiss Railway Pass. It is not only good for just about any railway in the country, but gets you on much of the urban public transit as well.

If possible, try to route yourself through Spiez. From an outlook point at the train station, you can look over the picturesque town which is built on the slopes of the hill itself, down to the Lake of Thun. The chalets along the winding streets are decorated with typical Swiss flower-boxes and dotted lace curtains. In the distance are the spectacular mountain ranges of the Jungfrau.

At the shore of the lake is the castle of Spiez. Originally constructed as a medieval fortress, it was a residential castle for seventeenth and eighteenth century nobility. You can still see vestiges of its Romanesque, Lombardian, Gothic, Renaissance and baroque styles of architecture and furniture.

The castle is the site of concerts and exhibitions.

From Spiez, take a boat cruise to Interlaken along the Lake of Thun. Relax in the enclosed eating area or the outdoor deck, and enjoy the mountains, resorts and towns that dot the area. The water is the spectacular jade green color that characterizes so much of Switzerland's waterways.

At Interlaken, jog across the tracks to the mountain train that begins the ascent. The twisting track passes streams that turn into torrential waterfalls when the snows melt or when there is a heavy rain And again, the green trees, valleys and looming mountains.

At Kleine Scheidegg, stop for a snack or meal, souvenirs, or just to walk around and enjoy another Swiss village. Then catch the cog-wheel railway that takes you to Jungfraujoch, the highest railway station in Europe at over 3,500 metres above sea level.

Part of the track is actually cut through the mountain, which adds to the eeriness and excitement of the experience.

Thousands of tourists make this trip every year, many from the Far East. A new station includes a restaurant with mostly glass windows, that enable you to enjoy a delectable meal while soaking up the beauty of the Jungfrau mountains.

When our tour was there, the area was cloaked in cloud and mist, rendering the outside of the station invisible. You felt like you were in some kind of spy movie, where enemy agents or adventurers would appear out of the fog and perform some superhuman feat of derring-do.

You can walk along an ice path to see the statues of the Ice Palace, or see the views from the Sphinx terrace, the highest vantage point in Europe. From there you can see as far as the Vosges Mountains of France and the Black Forest of Germany as well as the Aletsch Glacier, at 22 km the longest glacier in Europe.

Even the journey back down the mountain is exciting, as the train lurches and stops to avoid oncoming trains and negotiates narrow tracks.

The Jungfrau region is wonderful for skiing, hiking and mountain climbing, and is well worth staying for a while to fully take in all the fun.

You can't miss the famous Hotel Silberhorn in Grindelwald, one of the few four-star kosher resorts in Switzerland, not to mention Europe altogether.

The facility can accommodate some 200 guests in twin or single rooms or suites. The newly renovated lobby and dining rooms offer an incredible view of the nearby Eiger mountains.

The cuisine, under rabbinical supervision, is a mixture of French and Swiss cooking, and pastries, cakes, ice creams, and the fresh croissants at breakfast are all prepared on the premises.

A culinary highlight of the Silberhorn is the Shabbat cold buffet, Saturday supper during the summer and lunch in wintertime. Start with the cold meats (including the famous Swiss air-dried beef), salads and fruits, but leave room for the to-die-for dessert table.

The synagogue has daily as well as holiday minyanim (although the women's section is the adjoining lobby, rather than being part of the synagogue room) and two chazzanim for the High Holy Days. A communal seder is held on Passover, or private sedorim can be arranged. A mikvah is on the premises.

The hotel offers a sauna, Jacuzzi, and fitness room, while swimming, skating, curling, tennis and golf are available nearby.

But the highlight of the Hotel Silberhorn has to be its host, Meir Wagner, ebullient beater of the drum for the hotel, Grindelwald, the Jungfrau region and Switzerland as a whole.

The hotel has been in Wagner's wife's family since 1926, and he is proud of the celebrities who have stayed there, including Henry Kissinger; former Israel Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir; Lord Jakobovits, former chief rabbi of the British Commonwealth; and Israeli cabinet minister Zevulen Hammer and Knesset speaker Dov Shilansky.

Delegates to United Nations organizations come to the Silberhorn, as do travellers from all over the world.

"I would like it to be a meeting place for the Jewish world. For instance, I would like there to be seminars, where Jewish lawyers or teachers could hold seminars."

He has in the past held singles weekends for European Jews, and is considering an American/European singles holiday.

In January, 1994, Wagner is planning an Israel Food Festival and Art Exhibition, in co-operation with the Israel Tourist Office in Zurich. He hopes to feature Israeli writers at the event, as well.

Every year, he hosts participants in the Ladies World Cup Skiing competition.

He was the driving force in organizing a recent press mission for Canadian Jewish journalists and editors to Switzerland.

While he himself is an occasional journalist, writing for such periodicals as the *South Africa Jewish Times* and the *London Jewish Chronicle*, he confessed the real reason was "I have a liking for journalists.

"I wanted there to be an exchange of ideas between [Canadians and Swiss]. It is good for one to know about the other."

Noting that "a private person can sometimes do what government officials can't," Wagner serves as an unofficial goodwill ambassador and envoy for Switzerland. He once was asked to give a gift from the national government to former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and another to Lord Jakobovits from Bernese Oberland, the canton (province) in which Grindelwald sits.

One of his proudest achievements was to invite British, American, Canadian and French pilots who fought in the Gulf War to Hotel Silberhorn for a holiday.

The Canadian Jewish press mission to Switzerland, under the auspices of Canadian Jewish Congress, was sponsored by Air Canada, the Swiss National Tourist Office, and Hotel Silberhorn.

TRAVEL TALK

Did Bill and Hillary forget to invite you to the White House this summer? Not to worry. You're invited to join Sharon Ganz and Rhonda Okun for another sensational summer weekend in the U.S. capital over Labor Day, Sept. 3-6.

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Television, film industry attracting investors

By MALCOLM SILVER

Where does an investor or an investment adviser turn to find an ultra-conservative, short-term investment with high after-tax return? Few might think the television and film industry would be the place to look, but for the past few years, many sophisticated investors have been profiting from this well-kept secret.

The fact is that investment in television and film production is still 100 percent deductible for investors at a rate of 30 percent per annum on a declining-balance basis, with an additional allowance for any income received up to the balance not yet written off.

Furthermore, investment in the marketing and distribution (prints and advertisements) of film and video is a business expense and 100 percent deductible when incurred. The money does not have to be spent on Canadian-content productions.

Depending on where you live, you might also be able to take advantage of other benefits. For some Ontario productions, there is an extra sweetener: the Ontario Film Investment Program (OFIP). OFIP takes the form of a tax-free cheque from the provincial government of up to 25 percent of the budget.

It is paid out to Ontario investors after production is completed and reduces the level of subsequent tax deductions.

Investors in Québec used to benefit from an additional provincial tax deduction for investing in Québec productions. This deduction has now been replaced by an 18 percent tax credit used on the total budget which goes to the production company. Once the tax credit is received, these productions can only be sold to investors outside the province.

The most widely used vehicle for private investors is the well-oiled limited partnership, whereby the investors' liability is limited to the amount of their investment. The partnership is managed on their behalf by a general partner. Limited partnerships can be structured in three different ways, as follows.

Revenue Deferral: Normally, investments in Canadian film and TV production can be written off at 30 percent per annum on a declining-balance basis. Most deals, however, give investors writeoffs of 60 to 65 percent in the first year and nine to 12 percent in the second. Because the investors finance only part of the production costs (the producer provides a subordinated loan for the balance), all deductions available to the producer are passed through to the investors, thus doubling the deductions otherwise available.

Under most deals, investors make two or three payments in the first year and an additional payment in the second year. These are usually tailored to quarterly tax instalments to ensure the investor remains cash positive throughout the entire deal. A revenue guarantee, supported by an irrevocable letter of credit, kicks in usually in the second and/or third year. These deals may result in a negative "adjusted cost base" (ACB) if the unit is later sold resulting in a capital gain, and may be frowned upon by Revenue Canada.

Invest in an open pool

The latest structure offers investors the opportunity to invest in an open pool, rather than in a specific production. This structure offers the ability to come into a deal at any time throughout the year and not be restricted to waiting until year-end. Payment terms, while often matched to quarterly tax payments, may be made in more sophisticated deals on a monthly basis, making them even more attractive to investors. Investors may prefer the concept of staying in the deal and not selling their unit, thus eliminating the tax problems associated with the resulting negative ACB.

Although the open-pool idea may have some detractors, in fact, the investor should be able to know at the time of closing which projects he will be investing in. The key advantage to these deals lies in the generating of cash flow which can be used to pay off non-deductible debt. More sophisticated deals can split the unit cost over two years making the investment an intriguing vehicle for tax planning.

Buybacks: In the case of an investment in film and TV production, the investor usually writes off 45 to 60 percent in year one and 25 to 40 percent in year two, then is bought out of the investment in year two or three, triggering a capital gain as opposed to a revenue deferral. To take advantage of this gain, the investor must have either a high enough capital gains exemption or capital losses. The buyback is supported by an irrevocable letter of credit.

What about film and video distribution? Last year, a major public offering to finance the marketing and distribution (prints and ads) of a Canadian film was made available to investors. It offered a deduction of almost 100 percent for 1992, with a buyback option triggering a capital gain in 1993. For the first time on this type of offering, an advance ruling was received from Revenue Canada.

High-risk deals: For film and, especially, "How-to" video production, high-risk investments are also available. Such deals sometimes cover marketing expenses as well. They generally do not offer high distribution guarantees at the outset. Investors have to decide, based on a business plan from the producer and distributor, how successful the project will be in the marketplace. These are profit-driven investments, where the tax benefits are considered a secondary motivation for investing.

Returns and deferrals: Depending on the merits of the project and the investment structure chosen, rates of return vary considerably. The accountant should be sure to identify the timing of all cash receipts and disbursements, including taxes, and then use present-value calculations to assess the after-tax internal rates of return. For tax-deferral investments, the after-tax return on cash invested ranges from 24 to 35 percent.

Returns on buyback deals for production financing can fall into the 21 to 23 percent range, with an internal rate of return of 15 to 17 percent. Return on cash invested for a buyback prints-and-ads deal can be vary from 50 to 63 percent, with an internal rate of return of approximately 34 percent. The returns on the buyback deals assume that the investor is exempt from capital gains tax.

Cash payments divided

Given the complexity of these investments and the nature of the film and TV industry, sophisticated investors can take advantage of a number of side benefits. For example, borrowing to invest is attractive, since the loan interest can be written off entirely.

Thus, non-deductible is turned into deductible debt. Also, pure tax-deferral investments are often structured so that the cash payments are divided up to coincide with payment of taxes on a quarterly basis, thus allowing the investor to stay cash-positive throughout the transaction.

In a profit-driven (rather than tax-driven) deal, investors are usually first in line to recover their investment. Frequently — and this varies with the perceived riskiness of the deal — investors may also receive a priority return of, say, 20 to 25 percent and retain just a small, carried profit participation.

In deals where there is no priority return, investors usually share profits equally with the producer. The priority-return feature is most frequently found in prints-and-ads deals where the riskiness is perceived to be very low.

The deductibility of prints and ads is due to the fact that the expense is primarily for television advertising and for the costs of making the extra copies of a film or video. Since these are considered operating expenses of a marketing company (which is how a P&A limited partnership is usually set up), they are fully deductible in the year they are incurred.

And because they are business expenses, they are not subject to Canadian-content restrictions. Money can be spent on non-Canadian film or video production. As for revenue guarantees, they can be given only in the very special circumstances where a financially sound distributor is in a position to put up sufficient guarantees.

Important considerations: Before proceeding with any type of media investment, there are a number of questions any potential investor should ask.

A revenue guarantee is as good as the institution putting it up. If it is from a corporation, the investor needs to know about the corporation's present health and future prospects, as well as its past record in honoring any such guarantees. One key indicator in assessing the corporation's reliability is whether it is setting aside cash to honor this guarantee.

If the guarantee is put up by a financial institution — usually a bank — the investor should know which bank it is, whether the letter of credit is irrevocable, under what conditions the guarantee becomes operative, and whether a copy of the agreement is available. In accordance with banking regulations, the bank's name will not be disclosed in an offering memorandum, but the investment adviser should have this information readily available.

[Cont'd. on page 39]

DBIC helps businesses

By RANDI DRUZIN

TORONTO — One of Robert Cohen's best ideas came to him in the middle of the night, at a casino.

In November 1991, Cohen, founder and president of an integrated advertising, marketing and public relations agency based in Richmond Hill, attended a computer trade show in Las Vegas. There, he met Allan Singleton-Wood, a publisher from Maclean Hunter with whom he discussed the successes and failures of various American-based companies that had expanded into the Canadian market.

"We realized that some of the companies had done very well in Canada, while others had not," Cohen says, remembering the discussion that started at dinner and continued until three in the morning in a nearby casino. "We realized that, in order to succeed in Canada, American companies have to adapt to the Canadian market — a market which, many of them fail to recognize, is unique. We realized that if more American companies were successful in expanding into Canada there would be more jobs for Canadians, and an improved market overall."

Cohen decided to do something about it.

Through his agency, the Cohen Group, he spent the next 18 months establishing a network of Canadian-based, service-related companies to provide foreign and domestic businesses with the advice and services needed to successfully do business in Canada. In May, the non-profit association, Doing Business in Canada (DBIC), was officially launched.

Its mandate is to familiarize businesses who do, or plan to do business in Canada, with the unique attributes of the country and with what must be done to successfully compete here.

To this end, DBIC has written a manual, *How to do Business in Canada*. The association — whose member organizations include the Canadian Consulate General, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, Maclean Hunter Publishing, Dun & Bradstreet among others — also hosts a series of seminars throughout North America and provides a toll-free hotline. The hotline offers callers a free matching service, designed to align businesses requiring assistance with Canadian-based service companies.

Though its services are available to Canadian companies, the DBIC's primary focus group is American-based companies. "Simply opening your doors in Canada does not guarantee [American-based] companies a 10 percent increase in business," Cohen explains.

"And business plans developed for the United States marketplace aren't necessarily effective in Canada. While the Canadian marketplace shares several similarities with its southern neighbor, the differences are extremely important. To be successful in Canada, [American-based companies] must not only be aware of these differences, [they] must also be prepared to adapt to them."

Cohen cites as some of these differences, Canadian taxes and laws and regulations regarding manufacturing and distributing products. He also cites different demographics (Canadian consumers are dispersed over a larger area, making marketing in small communities very important), and the uniqueness of the French-Canadian market.

"Our objective is simply to open the doors for companies that want to expand into Canada," Cohen says, hoping that the dice he cast in Las Vegas two years ago turn up sevens.

APPOINTMENT

Don Deeves, Senior Vice-President, Manulife Bank of Canada is pleased to announce the appointment of Bob Bothwell as Branch Manager, 3200 Dufferin St., North York, Ontario.

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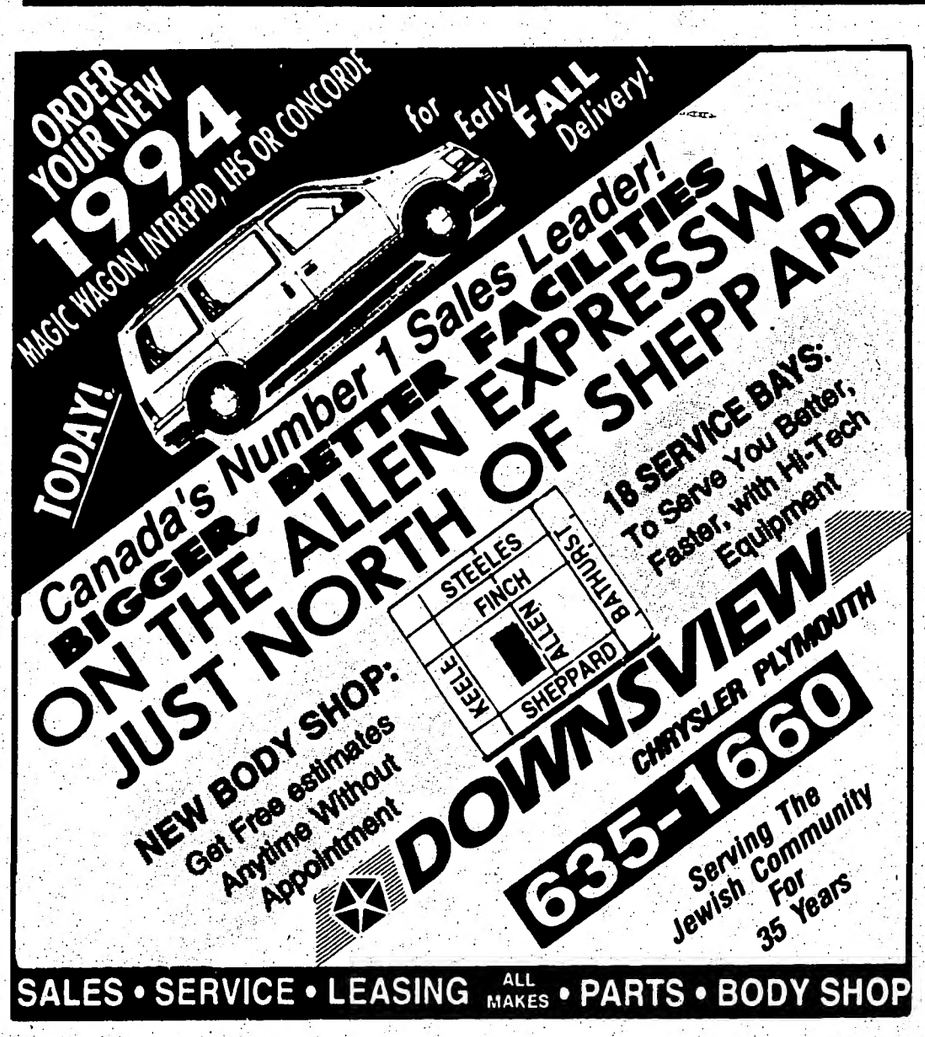

YOUR FINANCES

By KEITH P. CLIVE

You don't have to go to Tel Aviv to add Israeli securities to your portfolio. You can find "Sabra" securites on Wall Street. As a percentage of its domestic issues on the native stock exchange, Israel may have more stocks traded in a foreign stock market than any other nation. Currently, there are 49 Israeli companies that have their shares traded in the United States, which represents about 13 percent of the Tel Aviv Stock exchange's (TASE) 378 issues.

Three companies — **Elscint Limited (ELT), PEC Israel Economic Corporation (IEC),** and **Tadiran Limited (TAD)** — are listed on the NYSE. Five companies — **American Israeli Paper Mills Ltd. (AIP), Ampal American Israel Corp. (AIS. 'A') ElectroChem Industries Inc. (EIF), ETZ Lavud (ETZ),** and **Laser industries Ltd. (LAS)** — are listed on the **AMEX** (American Stock Exchange).

Forty-one are traded on the **NASDAQ,** 28 on the NASDQ National Market System (NMS), and 13 on the NAS-DAQ National System (NMS), and 13 on the NASAQ Small Cap[italization] Market. At least 16 maintain U.S. addresses, which makes investor communications easier, cheaper and more timely.

Uncoventionally, the only companies to have options and warrants on their stock are the NASDAQ traded issues rather than the NYSE AMEX listed stocks, which is the norm. **Comverse Technology (CMVT), ECI Telecom (ECILF),** and **Electronics For Imaging (EFII)** have their options listed on the **Chicago Board Options Exchange,** the world's largest options exchange. **Biotechnology General Corp. (BTGC)** and **Scitex Corp. (SCICF)** have options listed on the AMEX. **Istec Industries (ISTEF)** and **M-Systems/Flash Disk (FLSHF)** have warrants, **ISTWF** and **FLSWF** respectively, on their NASDAQ traded stocks.

Currently, there aren't any mutual funds that invest exclusively in Israel securities. There is, however, **The First Israeli Fund, Inc.,** which as its name infers, is the first country fund devoted to investing in Israeli securities. It is a closed-end fund, as opposed to the ubiquitous "open-end" mutual funds.

The Fund is listed on the NYSE **(ISL)** and trades like any other common stock, subject to all of the market's supply and demand variables, and other risks. There are 39 other country-specific closed-end funds listed on the NYSE. Country funds, both closed-end funds and mutual funds alike, and foreign shares traded in the United States present the simplest and most convenient method-in-the-madness of international investing.

The Fund is managed by Mahattan-based **BEA Associates** (212-832-2626), which also manages NYSE-listed closed-end Brazil, Chile, Latin America, Portugal and Indonesia country funds. The Fund (NYSE: ISL), has $74.4 million (U.S.) in total net assets.

Listed and unlisted Israeli or "Israeli-related" equity and debt securities comprise 73.4 percent of the fund's portfolio, with the remaining 27.6 percent in U.S. Treasury bills. The single largest holding is **Bezeq,** The Israel Telecommunication Corp. Ltd., representing 5.74 percent of the portfolio, and the only utility in the Fund.

Orders for any of these U.S.-traded "AmerIsraeli" stocks or for the Fund can be place through any of the major Canadian securities firms, including the discount brokerages. What Canadian brokerages should, but do not currently provide, is any investment research in this area. In fact, they will often try to steer you to Canadian securities, which is their forte.

The following American firms do provide this research: **Oppenheimer & Co., Lehmann Brothers, Furman Selz,** and **Oscar Gruss & Son.** The first three, household names to Americans, will not open accounts with Canadians. They can open accounts with Canadians with genuine U.S. addresses — NOT post office boxes — and of course, Canadian green card holders. Furman Selz will not accept any retail accounts from Canadians nor Americans because it is a strictly institutional firm.

Oscar Gruss & Son, in business since 1947, has been promoting Israeli securities for the past 25 years, and is a specialist for the fund (ISL). They were also co-underwriters for the initial public offerings of **Edusaoft Ltd.** (NASDAQ: EDUSF).

Gil Sartena, managing director of national equity sales, said that his firm has a virtual monopoly in this particular niche, which it very well seems to have. The Manhattan-based firm provides comprehensive investment research on most U.S.-traded Israeli stocks, and can even fill orders for stocks traded exclusively on the TASE.

The firm is a member of the NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, SIPC (Securities Innvestor Protection Corp.), and the NASD (National Association of Securities Dealers).

Canadians should check with their provincial securities regulatory agency to determine that agency's position regard-Canadians opening "unsolicited" accounts with American brokerage firms. The Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) prohibits even unsolicited accounts.

The OSC cannot prosecute the private citizen for opening such an account, and would be out of jurisdiction to take action against the U.S. brokerage. They can, however, report the brokerage firm to the federal U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which the Canadian client can also do just as easily.

The concern is that if a client-broker dispute or other problem arose, the provincial agency could not intervene.

The fact that there are now at least four firms that have specialists in the analysis of these "Isramerican" securities is a positive sign for investors. Without institutional sponsorship stocks rarely move at all, and often become illiquid. The lack of interest in turn, makes raising capital more expensive.

The most encouraging news comes from Furman Selz, which according to managing director **Daniel Chertoff** has aquired the distinction of being the only Wall Street firm to have Israel-based securities analysts.

Chertoff said that Israeli stocks are investment grade and not charities. He was quick to caution, however, that his firm's research is geared strictly toward institutions whose job it is to nimbly manage millions in and out of the market.

Frank Sinatra said that if you can make it in New York, you can make it anywhere. The Sabras have arrived and seemed to have made it, and at this rate will continue to take a bigger slice out of the Big Apple. Just remember that a Sabra is a prickly fruit.

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TV syndication can mean healthy return on investment

[Cont'd. from page 37]

An offering generally includes an option to sell (buy-back) at market value or a specified amount. If the revenue guarantees or pre-sales in place are provided by a distribution company or broadcaster, this can enable a producer or distributor to have them supported by a letter of credit.

An option to sell is generally attractive to an investor who has a short investment time frame (an option to sell can usually be exercised between 13 and 24 months after the close of the offering). Investors would not want to exercise their option to sell if they believe that the production is destined for tremendous long-term success.

But if the option to sell is granted before the film has been previewed, it is difficult for an investor to judge whether it's worth staying in. That's why it is usually best in such cases to take advantage of the option to sell.

As far as TV series are concerned, a producer generally must have three or four full seasons of orders from a network (13-26 episodes per season) before he or she has enough episodes to sell into the U.S. syndication market. And that's where the really large profits come in.

Thus, the investor is probably better off to dispose of an investment in this kind of programming at the option time unless he or she has a very long-term investment horizon and a deep belief in the product.

Investors should look at their personal financial position and decide what their priorities are. One person might prefer a high write-off this year, with a consequent ability to defer tax payment; another may prefer to receive a cheque in a year's time in the form of revenue or capital gain.

The unit size and the amount and timing of the cash payments vary from one deal to the next. A public prospectus is typically sold in units of $5,000 and up, whereas private placements are sold in units of $30,000. As for payment, an investor may write out a larger cheque in the first year or spread out the payments over two years.

If an investor does not have sufficient belief in the production to justify the investment, he or she should take comfort from an irrevocable letter of credit, which is a common feature in film and television offerings. Investors with a low tolerance for risk may invest in a project with a lower reward, whereas investors with a higher risk tolerance may look forward to higher returns.

It is possible to buy into a deal that triggers a capital gain, which will offset the capital losses created by other investments in real estate or the stock market.

In evaluating an offering, the investor should first ensure that the tax opinion has been given by a legal or accounting firm that has experience in the media financing sector and a good reputation in the investment community. He or she should also examine the opinion to determine whether it mentions clearly that the investment corresponds with the at-risk and anti-avoidance rules (GAAR); whether it mentions that the investor may be subject to reassessment; and whether a U.S. partnership is being used to provide the revenue guarantee. (If so, the investor will need to know if a U.S. tax opinion is being provided and by whom.)

Moreover, if the production is subject to a buyback based on fair market value, the opinion should state how the valuation will be done, and the criteria that will be used to ensure minimum value is achieved.

Background: The Film and TV Industry

A final word on the current state of the TV and film industries might be useful for potential investors and their advisers. Overall, it is important to point out that production levels for TV in Canada are higher than in recent years. There are various reasons for this, one being the lower Canadian dollar.

In Ontario, although fewer feature films are produced, they are of higher quality than in the past. The TV industry, for its part, is advertiser driven, so broadcasters are suffering from declining revenues. This is pushing them to pay less for programming.

They, in turn, are passing the squeeze on to U.S. producers, forcing them to find ways to reduce their costs and, if necessary, to turn to private investors for some of their financing.

Canada's reputation as a low-cost but high-quality producer of television stands only to increase. Next year, for the first time, Canada-originated series can be expected to air on prime time television in the U.S., the ultimate sign of acceptance.

Worldwide demand for TV continues to grow due to deregulation in Europe and the emergence of new TV stations there and in other parts of the world. The eastern European countries may become the next explosive growth area.

U.S. box office revenues were down last year, forcing even the major film studios to look at new ways to cut costs. Producing in lower-cost locations (as Canada can sometimes be) is a serious option. Vancouver productions are now at a level to challenge Toronto as the industry leader.

Canada still has a good future for film and TV production because of its pool of experienced talent and technicians, its proximity to key U.S. markets and its similarity to the U.S. in terms of languages and laws.

Canada also holds lucrative co-production treaties with European countries — an advantage U.S. producers do not have. All of this, combined with the many incentives offered to investors, make investment in TV, video and film something definitely worth looking into.

(Malcolm Silver, FCA, MBA, is a Toronto-based investment executive specializing in the financing of film, television and video. He publishes Silver Screen, a quarterly journal focusing on investment in these industries, and has also published a guide to media and entertainment investment.)

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Good natured, 62 year old, full figured widow, willing to relocate, seeks Hungarian speaking, financially secure gentleman, from 65. Box 5949 CJN.

Gregarious, sensitive, professional woman, slim, early 50's, seeks intelligent, outgoing gentleman who likes the arts, politics, outdoors. Box 5951 CJN.

Single man, 50, wishes to meet an attractive Jewish woman for friendship and dating. Please reply to Box 5950 CJN.

SJF, 20 years old, 5'7", non-smoker, wants to meet SJM, 20-25 years old, 5'9" plus, non-smoker. Please include recent photo if possible. Box 5937 CJN.

Very attractive, articulate, cuddly, cultured, demonstrative, educated, fit, gregarious, non-kosher, professional, well groomed, 38, 5'10", 155lbs., black hair (a few grey), brown eyes, dark complexion, clean shaven, good teeth (all my own), Mom says "tall, dark and handsome", Secretary says "very presentable and eligible", with own home and successful career, seeks elegant, independent, non-smoking, professional, refined, sexy, single, successful woman 25-37, preferably with med/long black hair, sparkle in her eyes, fit and slim, with an occasional naughty side. Interests: Black tie, boating, cooking, dining out, downhill skiing, family, friends, jeans, movies, opera, racket sports, skating, snuggling, theatre. Detailed letter and photo (or an accurate description) appreciated. Utmost discretion assured. Reply to Box 5930 CJN, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont. M3C 3A1.

Very fit and active semi-retired widower, 69, traditional but not orthodox, committed to Yiddish and interested in travel, lectures, jogging, biking, skating and reading, would welcome hearing from a lady in her late 50's, who enjoys life and wants to share these interests. An intelligent Jewish woman who is slim, attractive, outgoing and non-smoker and who values generosity, integrity, sharing and building a future together. Please send a letter and a recent photo. Box 5941 CJN.

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

A modern Orthodox male, late 40's, active in the Lawrence and Bath community seeks a Sephardic female, trim, late 30's, 5'6". Reply 90 Atkinson Rd, # 804, Downs. M3J 2S5.

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Kates-Lewis
Milton and Linda Kates are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Cheryl to Barry, son of Eileen & the late Martin Lewis. Proud grandmother Freda Pommer.

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330 OBITUARIES

Bader, Frank on August 4, 1993, late of 7440 Bathurst St., #704
Burke, Maxwell (Mac) on August 9, 1993, late of 18 Cedarcroft Blvd., #302
Ferris, Aaron on August 4, 1993
Field, Lily on August 7, 1993
Fiszman, Chaim on August 10, 1993, late of 74 Beaumont Place
Goldfarb, Elenor Doris on August 9, 1993
Cazes, Simone on August 7, 1993, late of 14 Elise Terrace
Greenwald, Ruth on August 8, 1993, late of 52 Viewmount Ave.
Pilpel, Abraham on August 7, 1993
Reznik, Moisha on August 10, 1993, late of 4266 Bathurst St., #315
Rostowski, Mendel on August 6, 1993, late of 72 Danby Ave.
Ruah, Rahel on August 7, 1993
Wilensky, Lillian on August 9, 1993

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the beloved memory of the late **Esther Hacker** will take place on Sunday, August 22, 1993, 10:30 am, at Pardes Shalom Cemetery, Beth David Section. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE UNVEILING DATE.

335 UNVEILINGS

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

HELEN SHAPIRO ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 22nd
11:00 a.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Farband Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

SHOSHA KRAVETZ ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 22nd
2:00 p.m.

Shaarey Zedek Cemetery
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Toby Beckerman ז"ל
(Bederman)

will take place

Sunday, August 22nd
11:00 a.m.

Pardes Shalom Cemetery
Community Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

Annie (Longert) Chesterman ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 22nd
11:00 a.m.

Lambton Mills Cemetery
Beth Emeth Hebrew Men of England Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

MANIA RICER ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th
2:00 p.m.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Lubliner Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late

LEO LEWIS ז"ל

will take place

Sunday, August 29th, at 1:00 P.M.

Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park
Kielcer Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

The unveiling of monuments to the memories of the late

Harry Barkin ז"ל
and
Jack Barkin ז"ל

will take place

Tuesday, August 24th, at 4:30 p.m.

Mount Sinai Memorial Park
Beth Sholom Synagogue Section

Relatives and friends are invited to attend

Russian brothers take different roads to NHL

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — They're not as renowned as the Richards, the Sutters or the Hunters, but the brothers Nemirovsky are hoping to one day make a splash of their own in the National Hockey League (NHL).

Like the other brother acts, the Nemirovskys — David and Mike — are hockey players with their eyes on the big league. Mike, the older of the two at 18, was born in Odessa, Ukraine and came with his family to Toronto as a baby. David, 16, was born in the Great White North.

Perhaps those birthplaces explains their somewhat different approaches to playing in the NHL. David was drafted last spring in the seventh round by the Ottawa 67s of the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), which, if the NHL entry draft is any indication, is the premiere junior feeder league for the pros. David is planning to report to the 67s after a summer of conditioning and weight training.

Mike, on the other hand, was drafted by Sudbury Wolves of the OHL two years ago, but is planning to spend the upcoming winter playing in Russia — as he did last season.

His Russian odyssey has its origins a couple of years ago when he had to return home from Sudbury after he developed mononucleosis in training camp.

Luckily for him, that wasn't the end of his hockey career. Mike's father, Simon, a former soccer player with Dynamo Kiev, met some visiting Russian sports officials and they watched Mike play in Toronto junior league action. As a result, he was offered a tryout with Moscow Spartak of the Russian elite league — the same team that produced Maple Leaf Nikolai Boraschevsky. After a month of training with the team, he was offered a playing contract and the six foot, 190 pound forward found himself skating with the big boys of Russian hockey.

Though he still hopes to make it in the NHL, playing in the same league that spawned such stars as Sergei Fedorov, Pavel Bure and Sergei Makarov was heady stuff for the Soviet-born youngster.

Mike says the Russian game is faster than what he was used to in Canada and the players are stronger and more skilled. As a result of being exposed to that brand of hockey, he feels his skating has improved signficantly. "I react quicker on the ice and I see more of the ice," he said.

Unlike his brother, David is preparing to make the jump from North York Junior A to the OHL. A six foot two, 180 pound forward, David racked up 45 points in 32 games last season, including 30 goals. Like Mike, he also got an offer to play for Spartak, but after talking it over with the Ottawa coaches, who assured him of a spot on the team, he decided to remain in Canada.

David (left) and Mike Nemirovsky

Both brothers, who attended Associated Hebrew Schools for several years, are hoping that one day their paths will converge in the NHL.

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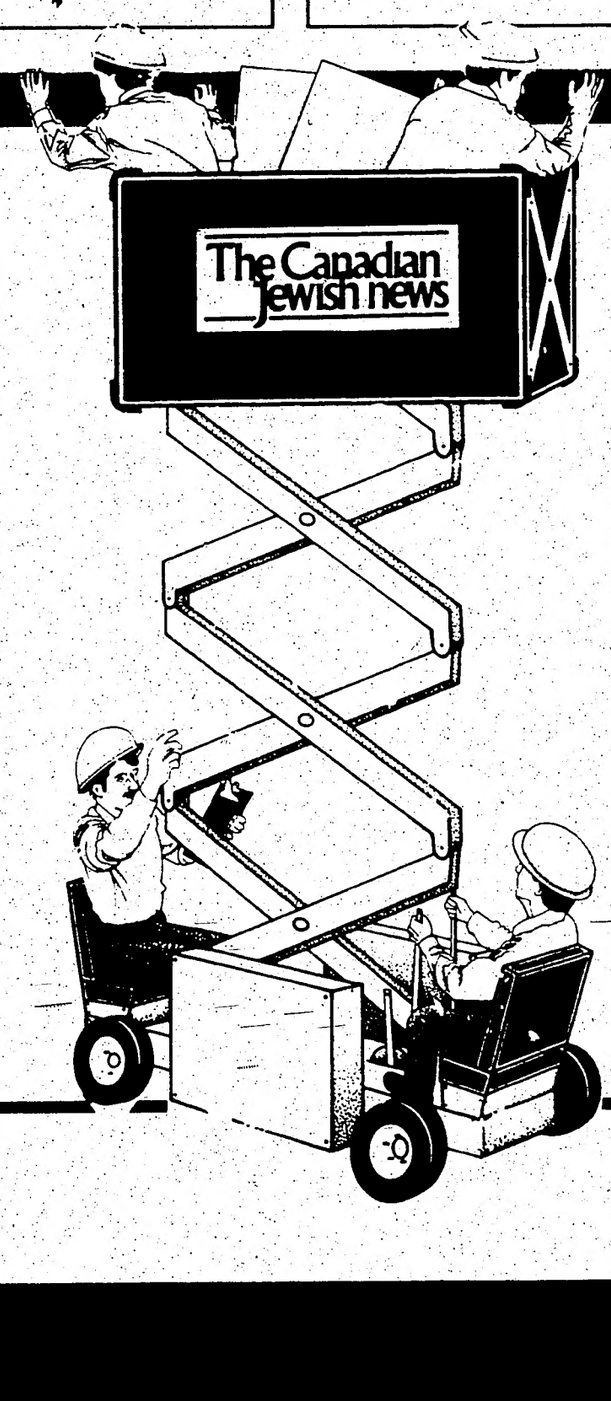

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We cannot bill for classified ads. They may be charged over the telephone to your Visa or MasterCard credit card, or you may mail in your ad with a cheque to: The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 3A1.

DEADLINE: Call 9 days preceding issue date
(for copy and prepayment)

Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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The Kosher Specialists...

SUNNY BROOK

Fresh Kosher Meat Market

CANDLELIGHTING TIME IS 7:53 P.M.

241 WILMINGTON AVE. (in the Bathurst Manor Plaza) DOWNSVIEW
CLOSED SAT. OPEN SUNDAY

309 FINCH AVE. W. (at Bathurst St.) WILLOWDALE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

8190 BAYVIEW AVE. THORNHILL
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

FROM FROZEN CONCENTRATE...
OLD SOUTH
ORANGE JUICE
.59
12.5 FL. OZ. TIN
LIMIT 6 TINS PER FAMILY PLEASE!

PROD. OF USA, CALIFORNIA
#1 GRADE, FRESH
GREEN THOMPSON SEEDLESS
GRAPES
1.49 lb.

PERL'S KOSHER
SALAMI
2.99 ea. 375 g
SAVE $2.50
LIMIT 2 PER FAMILY

BEST
FARFEL
2/.99 7 oz

KEDEM
TEA BISCUITS
2/.99 asst. 150 g

BRUNSWICK
CENTRE CUT
HERRING
2/.99 100 g tin

PALMOLIVE
BAR SOAP
3/.99 90 g. bar

CUT FROM GRADE "A" BEEF
KOSHER
RIB STEAKS
5.99 lb. 13.21 kg

PRODUCT OF ONT. #1 GRADE
FRESH!
CELERY STALKS .79 ea.

HEINZ
BAKED BEANS
IN TOMATO SAUCE
398 ML TINS .59

LA BISCOTTE
RICE CAKES
.99 asst 125 g

PRODUCT OF ONT. #1 GRADE
FRESH! SNOW-WHITE
CAULIFLOWER .99 ea.

F.B.I.
TETRA
DRINKS
.99 asst 3x250 ml

PIK-A-FRESH
PINEAPPLE
.79 asst 19 fl. oz. tin

ROYAL DANISH
FUDGE STRIPED OR GRAHAM
SHORTBREAD COOKIES
1.99 450 g pkg

THE NATURAL DESSERT!
SUGAR SWEET LARGE SIZE
CANTALOUPES .99 ea.

CHAMPION
MINI RAISINS
.99 9 pack

SPICE SUPREME
ASSORTED
SPICES
.99 asst sizes

KOSHER
VEAL DEAL
FRESH! KOSHER VEAL BRISKET 3.19 lb./7.03 kg
FRESH! KOSHER 2ND CUT VEAL CHOPS 5.29 lb./11.66 kg

PROD. OF USA, CALIFORNIA #1 GRADE
FRESH! SWEET
NECTARINES
.99 lb.

PROD. OF B.C., #1 GRADE
FRESH! SWEET
APRICOTS
1.49 lb.

BUY IN BULK & SAVE!
MAJESTA
PAPER TOWELS
2.99 large 8 roll pkg

MANISCHEWITZ
TAM TAMS
1.99 asst 225 g
SAVE 70¢

We reserve the right to limit quantities to normal family requirements. Limited quantities on some items. We reserve the right to correct printer's errors.

Advertised specials in effect Wed. Aug. 18-Tues. Aug. 24

TO WILMINGTON STORE ONLY!

FREE SUNNYBROOK Shuttle Bus Service
Tuesdays & Thursdays
PROVIDED BY Shomer Transportation Ltd.

9:30 AM	PICK UP AT **Cedarcroft & Bathurst** (Cedarcroft next to Royal Bank)	9:35 AM	PICK UP AT **135 Antibes Dr.** (in front of apartment building)	9:45 AM	PICK UP AT **15 & 25 Canyon Ave.** (Canyon, near Bathurst Street)	9:50 AM	PICK UP AT **4455 Bathurst St.** (in front of apartment building)	10 AM	ARRIVES SUNNYBROOK	11 AM	DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK
We reserve the right to limit quantities.		12:40 PM	PICK UP AT **JCC, 4588 Bathurst St.** (at main entrance)	12:45 PM	PICK UP AT **B'nai Brith Building** 4266 Bathurst (on Reiner Rd.)	1:00 PM	ARRIVES SUNNYBROOK	2:00 PM	DEPARTS SUNNYBROOK		

Transit service will not run on Jewish & Civic Holidays.

THE KOSHER SPECIALISTS